FBIS DAILY REPORT

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OBSERVER DISCUSSES PRAVDA ARTICLE ON SALT PROBLEMS

LD132246Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

[Text] The PRAVDA article devoted to the problem of strategic arms limitation is being widely discussed in the pages of the foreign press. The latest news commentary is by Soviet Television and Radio political observer Aleksandr Druzhinin:

Reading these comments it is not hard to note that most observers are stressing the Soviet Union's serious concern over the progress of the Soviet-American talks on strategic arms limitation. True, in solving the most important, the most pressing task of our time--the task of ending the arms race--the problem of strategic arms limitation occupies a special place.

Today one cannot but recall once more those efforts which our country has made in this field. And if up to now one still has to talk about difficulties which have arisen on the road to this goal, then this is happening only because certain circles in the United States are constantly trying to hinder, or even to completely undermine the agreement on strategic arms limitation. They are persistently trying to make this question the subject of an acute, intrapolitical struggle in Washington.

Indeed, even now when there is every prospect for concluding an agreement, virtually every day we come up against more and more calls being sounded in the United States for a buildup of the strategic arms race. Under the farfetched pretext of a Soviet threat, leading Pentagon officials and American generals at the helm of the NATO military are demanding the development of the latest arms systems. Certain Washington politicians are also striving for extra arms allocations.

I have in front of me one of the latest reports from the U.S. capital. The National Committee of the Republican Party is calling for an increase of another $2-3 billion in military spending for the 1979 fiscal year. The Republicans feel that the record sum of arms allocations which the administration is asking for is insufficient. They see as risky the White House decision to scrap the program to build the strategic B-1 bomber and demand extra funds to develop new systems of so-called mobile strategic M-X missiles.

There is no end either to the propaganda campaign aimed at retouching the provisions of the treaty on strategic arms limitation, earlier agreed upon between the Soviet Union and the United States, in such a way as to place an unequal situation on the Soviet side and to strive for certain advantages for the United States.

In such conditions, as many Western observers note, the clear and lucid account of the Soviet position could not have been more timely. Commenting on the PRAVDA article, the foreign press stresses in particular that the Soviet Union has done and is doing everything possible to conclude a new strategic offensive arms limitation agreement but it comes out firmly for this question being solved in accordance with the principles of equality and equal security. And those who are enflaming the atmosphere around the conclusion of a new agreement should remember this now.

COMMENTARY VIEWS U.S. REPUBLICAN STATEMENT ON DEFENSE

LD140036Y Moscow in English to North America 2230 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

[Text] And now an opinion on national defense policy. This was the subject of a Republican Party statement that has come out in Washington. What follows is a commentary on that by Vladyslav Kozyakov:

Today political leaders must decide whether they want to promote understanding and trust in international relations to achieve disarmament, or want to continue fostering suspicion and fear in order to speed up the arms race. Judging by their latest statements, the Republican Party has decided it is better to give priority to further arms buildup, using the excuse of the same old claims of a so-called Soviet threat. In reading the statements by Chairman of the Republican National Committee William Brock and Chairman of the party's Defense Subcommittee Robert Ellsworth, one cannot help but wonder whether these American politicians understand the consequences of their policy.

The New York TIMES recently pointed out that the authors of the interdepartmental report on the balance of military forces in the world had concluded that in a nuclear war between the Soviet Union and the United States each side would lose a minimum of 100 to 150 million people, not to mention the total destruction to most big cities and industrial facilities. Therefore, every responsible political leader must try first and foremost to prevent the threat of mutual destruction. This is precisely the aim of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries in their numerous proposals to prevent a nuclear war by urging arms limitations and force reductions. Soviet-American talks and talks between a number of other countries are now underway to discuss a wide range of disarmament issues. In the center of world politics are measures to lessen the threat of war, to stop the arms race and to begin actual disarmament. The fate of civilization rests on the adoption of these measures.

But although the Republican Party leadership mentioned the arms limitation talks, it was only for the purpose of placing new obstacles to these talks. The statement casts doubt on many provisions in existing Soviet-American agreements. It also makes a call for intensive and unlimited deployment of new strategic weapons and systems and greater military spending in the United States. What is the reason for this position? You'd think one of the country's biggest parties would appraise the realities and take into account the people's need. Judging by recent polls, the overwhelming majority of Americans favor concluding a new agreement with the Soviet Union on limiting strategic offensive weapons, and recent elections vividly showed the unpopularity of statements by opponents of relaxation of international tension and disarmament. One important reason for the Democrats' election successes was undoubtedly because of promises to cut military spending by $5-7 billion, although this still hasn't been done.

So why are the Republican leaders so vigorously urging on the arms race? What kind of logic is there in United States politics? The more active realistic politicians become and the closer we come to concluding disarmament agreements, the stronger the opponents of easing tension attack any possible agreement. At present various forces connected with the military-industrial complex are against any agreement with the Soviet Union to limit arms. These forces include political leaders in both the Republican and Democratic parties. Their aim is to pressure United States policy and to stop any attempt at disarmament.

These politicians and groups are certainly not guided by the national interests of the American people. They support the interests of the military-industrial corporations. This is one particular example: Last year the profits of Boeing, which produces bombers and missiles, nearly doubled and amounted to $180 million. And now Boeing and General Dynamics have received orders to produce cruise rockets to the tune of $26 million.

Those political leaders and groups in the United States are making a big mistake by supporting the arms race to benefit the military-industrial complex at the expense of mutually acceptable agreements to limit arms. This policy is extremely irresponsible in terms of the national interest of the American people and world peace.

CORRESPONDENT CITES UN SPEECHES ON DISARMAMENT

LD1410147 Moscow TASS in English 0950 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

[Text] New York, February 14, TASS--The TASS correspondent, Vladimir Matyash, reports:

The overwhelming majority of U.N. member-countries went on record in favour of curbing the arms race and of disarmament, above all, nuclear, of deepening and consolidating international detente. This is borne out by the proceedings of the preparatory committee for the convocation of a special disarmament session of the U.N. General Assembly, continuing here. Abroad and, on the whole, favourable responses in the United Nations met the latest peace initiatives of the Soviet Union, reflecting the will of the peoples for detente and peace, the elimination of the threat of nuclear war and the safeguarding of lasting peace.

The important disarmament proposals, advanced by Leonid Brezhnev, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, to reach an understanding on a simultaneous halt in the production of nuclear weapons by all states and a moratorium covering nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes along with a ban on all nuclear tests for a definite period open up new horizons in curbing the arms race and are enlisting growing support in the world, Henryk Jaroszek, the permanent representative of Poland at the United Nations, emphasized in his speech.

We believe, he said, that these topical and timely proposals, designed to avert the threat of nuclear war, must find a reflection in the documents of the special disarmament session of the U.N. General Assembly.

The Polish representative angrily denounced the plans for the development of another barbarous weapon of mass annihilation of people, the neutron bomb. We sharply protest against the development of the neutron bomb, a highly dangerous and inhuman weapon of mass annihilation, he said. The Polish People's Republic, Jaroszek pointed out, expressed its full support for Leonid Brezhnev's proposal to the Western powers to reach an understanding on the mutual renunciation of the manufacture of the neutron bomb.

Piero Vinci, Italy's permanent representative at the United Nations, spoke in favour of raising the role of the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security and in the solution to disarmament problems. He said that a ban on nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass annihilation must be a priority task and key measure in the process of disarmament.

NUCLEAR WEAPON TEST BAN MEETING HELD IN GENEVA

LD1312347 Moscow TASS in English 1218 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Geneva, February 13, TASS--A meeting was held today of the delegations of the USSR, the United States and Britain at the talks here on the drafting of a treaty on the general and complete prohibition of nuclear weapon tests.

U.S. SEEN STRIVING TO HINDER PROGRESS AT BELGRADE

LD131035Y Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 8 Feb 78 p 9 LD

[B. Nikolayev report: "Belgrade: The Final Stage"]

[Text] Belgrade--Three weeks have elapsed since the blow of the chairman's gavel heralded the beginning of the final stage of the Belgrade meeting in the congress center.

The present stage differs from the previous one. In October-December last year a useful exchange of opinions took place on the fulfillment of the final act provisions and on how to further strengthen security and develop cooperation in Europe. In those months each delegation had the chance to express its views in detail. At the final stage the meeting participants are faced with one task--to draw up the concluding document.

In accordance with the procedure established in Helsinki, every decision is made on the basis of consensus--that is, when it is approved by all the countries. But instead of facilitating the creation of a concluding document acceptable to all the participants in the forum, several delegates, primarily from the United States, are thwarting this work. Arthur Goldberg, head of the American delegation, tries in his speeches again and again to divert attention from the main direction of the process of detente. He tries to convince those gathered in the congress center that Belgrade is not the place to discuss the problems of security and cooperation in Europe, but that the idea both of the meeting in the Yugoslav capital and of the whole process started in Helsinki as a whole is to give the United States the right to interfere in the internal affairs of socialist countries. A. Goldberg and his patrons in the United States are in no way willing to understand that the Soviet people, and indeed other sovereign peoples of Europe, will not allow foreign devotees of moral admonition to enter their homes.

The public of our continent has recently witnessed blatant U.S. pressure on France and Italy to try to influence internal development in these countries. Journalists at the Sava center note that the line taken by the American delegation in Belgrade coincides with the general stance of those circles in the United States which, hiding behind demagogic declarations on the "defense of human rights", strive for the right to interfere in the affairs of others.

Judging by Arthur Goldberg's new attacks, at the present stage he does not intend to change his approach to the meeting in any way. Meanwhile, the American representative could find himself a much wider field of activity elsewhere. Where? In his own country where infringements of human rights occur every day and every hour.

If one were to analyze the U.S. position throughout the entire Belgrade meeting, it would become obvious that the American delegation has been constantly striving to create real difficulties in the way of achieving an understanding on key questions. Not only has it not put forward a single proposal aimed at strengthening European security and cooperation, it has stubbornly blocked discussion of constructive initiatives in these fields.

And there is one other indicative feature: Just as A. Goldberg was delivering his speech in Belgrade on the "need to strengthen the atmosphere of trust," the United States came out with its plans to produce and deploy the neutron bomb on the territory of West European countries. What kind of mutual trust can we be talking about if Washington is gambling on inhuman new weapons?!

The U.S. delegation shows no interest either in the development of economic cooperation in the spirit of Helsinki. Thus, it blocked a proposal on the universal application in trade of most favored nation status. Along with a number of others who share their views, the U.S. representatives refused to include this proposal in the concluding document of the meeting in January--just like, by the way, many clear proposals on the development of cultural cooperation.

Observers in Belgrade are forming the impression that the American delegation is exacerbating the atmosphere at the meeting and is striving to turn off the path outlined in the final act of strengthening security and expanding cooperation in Europe onto a winding road of argument and mutual recrimination.

It is being noted in the corridors of the congress center that such a stance is not supported by the majority of emissaries of European countries, who see the only chance to strengthen peace on our continent in the process started in Helsinki. And they believe that despite any artificially erected barriers, detente will develop.

DEMCHENKO REVIEWS TRADE, AS-SADAT TRIP, CSCE, HORN OF AFRICA

LD131343Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[Pavel Demchenko International Review: "The International Week"]

[Text] One more week in February has come to an end, rich in events in various parts of the world. These events attest to the multiplicity and complexity of the processes taking place in international life and to the acuteness of the conflicts between progressive and reactionary forces.

Our country is continuing the struggle for peace, the materialization of the relaxation of international tension and the expansion of businesslike cooperation between states, including those in Europe. News of new successes in constructive labor is reaching us from the fraternal socialist countries.

The press agencies provide reports of meetings and protest demonstrations against the arms race and the production of the neutron bomb and other types of weapons of mass destruction. The working people of various countries are saying "no!" to the criminal designs of imperialism. This appeal also resounded in Athens at the international conference "for peace, security and cooperation in the Mediterranean."

The situation remains acute in the world's "hot spots": the Near East, the Horn of Africa and southern Africa, where the Rhodesian racists have carried out their biggest attack in recent years inside Zambia's territory. The government of socialist Vietnam has come out with a constructive new initiative aimed at halting the conflict and normalizing the situation on the Vietnamese-Cambodian border.

For the Materialization of Detente

Austrian Federal Chancellor B. Kreisky visited the USSR this week. He had important talks in Moscow and was received by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The principled, consistent nature of the Soviet Union's line toward the intensification of traditional good neighborly relations with the neutral Austrian Republic was emphasized during the talk which took place. It was noted that the Soviet Union is understanding and sympathetic to the desire of the neutral countries, including Austria, to make their constructive contribution to the consolidation of trust between the states and the further development of the process of detente.

Austria is a small country. But experience shows that it has great opportunities for developing mutually advantageous cooperation with other states, including the Soviet Union. Take trade. There is a tendency toward steady growth here. In 1975, for instance, trade turnover between our countries was R445.1 million, but it has recently increased to almost R600 million. Austria is among the USSR's 10 leading European trade partners. A number of large-scale contracts have been signed recently, including a contract for the delivery of equipment for a pulp and paper combine in Kondopoga and the Novolipetsk metallurgical combine and special gas pipeline equipment and computer components.

It must be said that the positive advances in international relations which have taken place in recent years are promoting the development of mutually advantageous cooperation among states with different social systems. The materialization of economic detente is of important significance, since it strengthens the foundation of peace.

If we turn again to trade, it is precisely in Europe that we find the majority of the USSR's main partners--the FRG, Finland, Italy and France. Comparatively recently--in 1972--a trade agreement was concluded with Spain, but during this time trade turnover between our countries has increased 5 times and there are good opportunities for the future. Or one more example. Of the 35 ships built last year in Finland, 20 were ordered by the Soviet Union. Unfortunately, because of obstacles created by the opponents of the development of Soviet-U.S. relations, there has been a noticeable reduction in the volume of trade between the USSR and the United States, which was R2.2 billion in 1976.

It is well known that the Soviet Union is struggling consistently for the further development of cooperation and for the intensification of detente and its extension to the military sphere. In the interests of attaining these goals, it has produced many specific initiatives and suggests reaching agreement on the mutual renunciation of the production of the neutron bomb in order to spare the world the emergence of a new weapon of mass destruction. "The Soviet Union's efforts will continue to be aimed at totally eliminating the threat of nuclear war, making the good changes taking place in international relations stable ones, intensifying detente and expanding peaceful cooperation among states," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev has said.

As the article published in PRAVDA yesterday notes, in the intensification of the relaxation of international tension, increasingly great significance is attached to practical steps to reduce the danger of war and to halt the arms race and turn to actual disarmament. For objective reasons it is precisely these questions which have been put at the center of international life, and the prospects for the further development of human civilization will depend to a considerable extent on how they are resolved. The problem of strategic arms limitation is a special concern. It is therefore no accident that the current talks on this subject between the USSR and the United States are arousing the interest of the entire international public.

Our country believes that it is very important to fulfill all parts of the final act of the all-European Conference on Security and Cooperation. But this line is being resisted by influential imperialist circles, as demonstrated at both the Vienna talks on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe and also at the Belgrade meeting of representatives of the states which took part in the all-European forum.

It is clear that those who would like to use the Helsinki accords for selfish purposes and for interference in other people's affairs are harming the great and important cause initiated by the all-European conference. The Soviet Union rejects this approach. It is in favor of constructive cooperation. And it is working from these positions at the Belgrade meeting, which must be completed with positive results by the established deadline. This is in the interests of all participants and of the further normalization of the European political climate.

Two Results

It has already become traditional at the start of the year for the countries of the socialist community to assess the results of the development of their national economies during the past year.

The results of the fulfillment of the state plan for the development of the USSR national economy in 1977 have convincingly shown that the party's plans which were adopted by its 25th congress are being consistently implemented in all sectors of communist building. Figures have now been published on the results of the development of the national economies in Poland, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, the GDR and Romania.

In assessing the quoted figures, it must be said that they look impressive and attest to the fact that despite the difficulties which sometimes arise, the national economies of the countries of the socialist community are developing steadily. The working people's living standard is improving. Thus, in Czechoslovakia the annual industrial production plan was overfulfilled. Poland's TRYBUNA LUDU writes that "the past economic year has been characterized by the further raising of the country's economic effectiveness." Industrial production output increased 8.6 percent and real wages 2.3 percent. In housing construction the growth was 5.4 percent, but this was not enough to fulfill the plan. In Bulgaria the national income increased 6.3 percent over the year while the volume of industrial output increased 6.8 percent. The press of the other states of the socialist community has also reported considerable successes.

These results are particularly evident against the background of the upheavals which the capitalist economy is now experiencing. It is universally recognized that the seventies were the gravest years for it since the "Great Depression" of the thirties. Some hopes were pinned on last year, but they were not destined to be realized.

Here is what the influential British newspaper THE FINANCIAL TIMES writes on this issue: "A year ago it was believed that the production growth rates in Western Europe would fluctuate between 3 and 4 percent, but it now appears that they were less than 2.5 percent. This reduction in rates is a universal phenomenon in all leading European countries." In Britain itself production has virtually marked time: In the opinion of the article's author, it increased by "a maximum of 0.5 percent" in 1977.

And the prognosis for the current year? It is also inauspicious.

Concerning the EEC countries, the newspaper writes that,"several specialists foresee a growth in the total volume of production in 1978 of approximately 3.5 percent, although this will hardly be adequate to prevent a further increase in unemployment; in the second half of the year a fall in the annual growth rates to 2.5 percent will occur." Special alarm is being caused by the high rate of growth in prices and unemployment which have become a real disaster for the working people. It is primarily the young people who are suffering. According to figures from the International Labor Office there are 7 million unemployed young people in the developed capitalist countries, including more than 2 million in the "Nine"; one third of the unemployed in these countries is less than 25 years old. It is not surprising that workers and employees have to resort so frequently to strikes to defend their interests, the right to work and the right to a worthy life. Just recently there have been reports of strikes by postal workers in France, railroad workers in Greece and printing workers in the FRG.

The situation is no better in the "citadel of capitalism"--the United States. President J. Carter presented as a great achievement of his administration the reduction of unemployment to 6.4 percent of the total work force, that is between 6 and 6.5 million persons (according to the labor unions' statistics, the figure is far higher). The United States has embarked on the new year with an unprecedentedly low dollar exchange rate, with unprecedentedly high military expenditures and with a record trade balance deficit (about $27 billion) and a budget deficit.

"The three main Western industrial powers--the United States, West Germany and Japan--have found themselves in a situation of economic embarrassment," L. Silk, the New York TIMES economic commentator writes. "And if they do not resolve their difficulties, not only the dollar but also the entire Western alliance is threatened with confusion."

Commentary here, as they say, is superfluous.

Who Is Fanning the Conflicts

Since the November decision by Egyptian President A. as-Sadat to go to Jerusalem and establish direct contact with Israel's leaders, everything bearing on the separate Israeli-Egyptian talks has been accompanied by an unprecedented hullabaloo in the Western press. Dozens of television interviews, countless articles and entire issues of magazines and newspapers have been devoted to this theme. But suddenly the propaganda squall has died down somehow all at once: A. as-Sadat's trip across the ocean this week ended without sensational statements for the press and without a public hullabaloo.

This change is not fortuitous: The propaganda "froth" has already been skimmed off the Israeli-Egyptian talks; it is now clear to everyone that the talks can do nothing for a peaceful settlement in the Near East. I. Fahmi, former Egyptian foreign minister, said in this connection: "It is impossible to alter the strategic and political characteristics of a situation which has been in existence for 30 years, as a result of a single visit, albeit a sensational one."

Emotions have clearly receded into the background. Reality has to be looked squarely in the face. And the reality is that the Arab peoples are being resisted by the strategy of Zionism, supported by influential imperialist circles--a strategy which includes the expansion of Israeli territory at the expense of Arab lands. A. as-Sadat's initiative, as should have been expected, did not make the Israeli leaders retreat a single step from their positions. They are stubbornly reiterating their refusal to disband the settlements (there are, in all, more than 80 of them), which have been set up on Arab land occupied in 1967, and they are repeating their "no" to a Palestinian state and their "no" to recognition of the PLO.

It is no secret that certain Egyptian--and not just Egyptian--circles quite seriously believed that the readiness displayed by Cairo to undertake a further rapprochement with the West and to make concessions to Israel would "guarantee" some "bonus" for Cairo. The recent visit to the United States by the Egyptian president dispelled this illusion, too: Washington has demonstrated once again that it has no intention of abandoning its orientation toward Israel as the chief outpost of its policy in the Near East. All that As-Sadat had to content himself with was the promise that some of his requests for deliveries of military equipment would be examined. The U.S. President, the New York TIMES writes, will not quarrel with Tel Aviv which opposes any recognition of the rights of the Palestinians to self-determination and which is reluctant to return any of the captured Arab lands.

It stands to reason that Washington is interested both in allies among the Arab states and also in splitting the Arab solidarity front and in destroying Soviet-Arab cooperation. The aim of this course is obvious: To impose upon the Near East a settlement according to a U.S.-Israeli recipe. After all, it must not be forgotten that the imperialist monopolies, as before, do not intend to relax their control over a region that is so rich in oil and strategically important. This is pointed out, in particular, in the decisions of the Algiers conference of several Arab leaders who are opposed to separate talks with Israel.

In close geographic proximity to the Arab-Israeli area of conflict, another dangerous seat of tension is ablaze--the Horn of Africa. The reasons for the outbreak of these conflicts and their historical roots would appear to differ. However, in both cases it is easy to note a certain similarity. Both in the Near East and in the Horn of Africa imperialism is siding with the aggressor and is causing a protraction of the crisis. The blow is being directed against progressive regimes and the national liberation movement.

Understandably, the Soviet Union, fulfilling its internationalist duty, is giving resolute support to the victims of the aggression and, together with the progressive forces, is advocating a just settlement of the most complex international problems. This course is part of the struggle for a general relaxation of tension: It accords with the interests of peace and social progress and therefore enjoys the widespread support of the peoples of all continents.

USSR WILL SUITABLY ANSWER NEUTRON BOMB 'CHALLENGE'

LD131256Y Moscow TASS in English 1217 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

["Under a False Pretext: Concerning One Interview of Jurgen Moellemann"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, February 13 TASS--TASS news analyst Yuriy Kornilov writes:

Jurgen Moellemann, defence policy spokesman of the Bundestag group of the Free Democratic Party, said in an interview with the West German newspaper BILD ZEITUNG that the FRG "cannot give up the neutron weapon." He said that the NATO countries should decide this matter "as soon as possible" and that the Free Democratic Party group will be the first group in the Bundestag to express itself officially on February 21 in favour of neutron weapons.

Inasmuch as Herr Moellemann is such a determined advocate of neutron weapons which he wants to be put on the production lines, one cannot but ask whether Herr Moellemann realises what deployment of such weapons in the NATO troops in Western Europe, especially in the FRG, would mean. Are Herr Moellemann and those members of the Free Democratic group who, he said, share his views, led along by those circles of the Pentagon and NATO which are trying to present the neutron weapon as a "purely tactical", almost "innocent" one? If this is so then it would be well to remind Herr Moellemann that such allegations are utterly groundless since both in nature and destructive power the neutron weapon is a weapon of mass annihilation, a weapon intended for the extermination of huge masses of population and for devastating whole countries.

It would be an illusion to think that the neutron weapon, if used, will be employed "on a limited scale". If the neutron weapon today has one yield, is it not clear that tomorrow it will have power exceeding that of today many times over? If today the neutron bomb is linked, say, with close-range missiles, is it not clear that tomorrow, because of the very logic of the arms race, it will be linked with quite different means of delivery and may hit any area including that in which Herr Moellemann makes his speeches in defence of the neutron weapons?

Influential members of the Free Democratic Party have said more than once that they want the Soviet-American SALT-2 talks to make progress, and that they want mutually acceptable decisions to be taken at the Vienna talks on mutual force reductions in central Europe. As for the Vienna talks, a similar statement was made also by Herr Moellemann himself, and he made it quite recently, towards the end of December last year. But how can these statements be reconciled with Herr Moellemann's position today? It is quite clear that the cause of detente, of curbing the arms race and simultaneous deployment of such barbarous sophisticated weapons as the neutron bomb in Western Europe are incompatible, mutual exclusive things. Indeed how is it possible to cooperate successfully in the efforts to ease international tensions. How is it possible to look for and find, on the basis of mutual trust, ways of solving the problems of disarmament, if one of the sides will place reliance on the new weapon of mass destruction, a weapon targeted (and Herr Moellemann does not conceal this, nor do the Pentagon and NATO war hawks) against the Soviet Union and its allies?

Advocating the deployment of the neutron weapons Herr Moellemann asserts that such a step would allegedly "strengthen" the West's positions in talks with the Soviet Union. It is hardly necessary to make any special analysis to see in these allegations a throwback to the old long-bankrupt concept of the imperialist policy "from position of strength," a policy which has never brought and could not bring anything good to Europe. It is perhaps not advisable to go too far with historical comparisons, but in this case it seems in place to recall the years when Hitler Germany, pleading falsely the need for "evening up power balance," launched a frantic arms race, built the road of militarization and finally plunged the world into a war. What this led to for Germany is well known.

As for the Soviet Union, its position on the matter of neutron weapons is clear-cut and unchanged. The Soviet Union which remains committed to its policy of peace and of curbing the arms race comes out firmly and consistently for mutual, I emphasize, mutual refusal to manufacture this wicked weapon. Such a step would undoubtedly meet fully the interests of peace and the interests of detente. If neutron weapons are never developed in the West the Soviet Union will have no act the way it did when the United States developed the first atomic bomb: It will give a fitting answer to this challenge, too, in order to ensure the security of the Soviet people and of their allies and friends.

It is not yet too late to stop, it is not yet too late to take steps to bar the way to the new direction of the nuclear arms race with all dangerous consequences arising therefrom: to say a firm "no" to the neutron weapons is to strengthen peace, to consolidate the process of relaxation of international tension in Europe and beyond it. The same Western politicians who, like Herr Moellemann, proclaim the neutron bomb to be a sort of panacea from the mythical "Soviet menace" are pushing the world in a diametrically opposite direction.

BOURGEOIS PROPAGANDA BLAMED FOR INITIATING DISSIDENT CAMPAIGN

LD130004Y Moscow in Swedish to Sweden 1900 GMT 12 Feb 78 LD

[Excerpts] We have received several letters which describe it as a mistake to persecute people for thinking differently from others. Our observer, Dmitriy Andreyev, writes in this connection:

First of all we must define the dissident concept. If someone expresses a constructive and well argued criticism of defects (?for the purpose of making a contribution) to their elimination [words indistinct] with satisfaction (?by) the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, and if someone expresses criticism [words indistinct] ocuntries.

Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, said in a speech to the Soviet Trade Union Congress that it is not forbidden to think differently from the majority or adopt a critical attitude to one or another side of social life. We view those who criticize in order to improve the situation as conscientious people and we are thankful for them. We regard those who criticize [word indistinct] as misled people, Leonid Brezhnev said.

It is an entirely different matter, Dmitriy Andreyev writes, when someone begins to conduct an activity hostile to the state, violates the law and turns to other states for help, urging them to exert pressure against the Soviet Union and engage in illegal activities in order to undermine or weaken the prevailing social and political system--for instance, through spreading lies about the Soviet state and social system.

Solzhenitsyn, for instance, as we know, called on the Western states to drive the Russian people beyond the Ural mountains; and Sakharov has repeatedly turned to the West, appealing for it to exert constant economic and political pressure on the Soviet Union. And Bukovskiy even intended to resort to terror in the fight against Soviet power. Such different thinking constitutes in our view hostile activity against the Soviet state and the Soviet people, and the state is fully justified in defending itself. Penalties for such activities are stipulated in articles 70 and 190 in the Russian Federation's and in corresponding union republic criminal laws.

Similar laws are, by the way, in force in many Western states.

A number of letterwriters emphasize that there are many dissidents in the Soviet Union. I am convinced, Dmitriy Andreyev writes, that this is a result of their belief in the propaganda campaign centered around a handful of traitors in the Soviet Union: This campaign has been initiated by bourgeois propaganda. Bourgeois ideologists, frightened by the popularity of the leftwing forces in the Western states, are using all means to give a distorted picture of socialism and to show that in the socialist countries, above all in the Soviet Union, there is extensive opposition to the socialist system.

This is why the Western mass media daily publish material about so-called dissidents. But in this context it must be noted that in fact they mention only Solzhenitsyn, Amalrik, Bukovskiy and a handful of similarly minded people. And the fact that the dissidents turn to foreign countries and various anti-Soviet propaganda organs and intelligence services for help shows that they have no support inside the country and cannot count on understanding from their countrymen.

And one more important fact: In 1917, when the socialist revolution gained victory in Russia, there were only 400,000 communists in the world, and today they number over 60 million. This number continues to grow despite the obstacles raised by bourgeois ideologists in order to hinder the development of the communist ideas.

As we know, there have been many crusades against communism, but these have failed, and we are convinced that even the current anticommunist campaign will end in a fiasco. For the dissemination of the communist ideals is an irrevocable process, writes our observer, Dmitriy Andreyev.

UNITED STATES

U.S. BASES OVERSEAS 'DIRECT THREAT TO WORLD'

LD131828Y Moscow TASS in English 1713 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Washington, February 13, TASS--How many bases on other countries' territories does the U.S. maintain and where is the greatest number of them? The American bases represent a direct threat to the whole world, being evidence of aggressive designs of imperialism which seeks to dictate its will to the nations. According to the foreign press the USA now has 683 major military installations in other countries' territories. More than 200 large and about 2,000 small military bases of the Pentagon are stationed in 40 countries of the world.

Hundreds of thousands of American servicemen armed with the latest weapons are stationed on bases far beyond the United States. A recent issue of the U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT journal carried a spread of a world map indicating points and areas of American troops concentrations. The map has virtually no "blank spots", as American armed forces are to be found on all continents. At present one in every four American servicemen is on duty overseas. In the past year 1977 the Pentagon increased its troop strength overseas by 27,000, which brings the total overseas troops to 490,000.

The densest concentration of American troop strength overseas is in Western Europe, where it stands at more than 313,000. During the last year they were increased by almost 18,000. The American strength in the Federal Germany is in excess of 224,300. According to the Paris paper LE FIGARO, in West Germany alone the number of American servicemen increased by 15,800 in 1977. This year the Pentagon will send another 8,000 troops to Europe, the U.S. President announced. The U.S. force in Turkey and Greece was increased also.

The American contingents stationed in Japan and Okinawa were increased to 48,000. An almost equal strength is maintained by the Pentagon in South Korea where the American forces number more than 40,500. There are 56 U.S. bases in Japan and South Korea.

On the whole there are 143,500 American servicemen in the Far East and the Pacific. The Pentagon last year sent an additional 10,700 troops to that area.

Besides, whole armies are float as part of the Seventh Fleet which plies the waters of the Pacific and the seas of the Far East. They number 27,500, and there are another 39,900 troops with the Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean. The Mariana Islands--Saipan and Tinian--see expanding facilities for receiving American aircraft carriers and atomic submarines and the construction of storehouses for nuclear warheads. Such is the sinister geography of the American Armed Forces which have for decades been constantly based in other countries. According to the U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT the policy of increasing armed forces overseas will be continued by the Pentagon into this year.

Additional Report

LD132215Y Moscow TASS in English 2132 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Washington, February 14, TASS--A recent issue of the American journal U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT published a map showing the deployment of U.S. Armed Forces overseas. Although it gives no idea of the density of American bases in foreign territories--hundreds of U.S. military installations are designated by just a few "stars"--the geography of their distribution is significant.

The NATO strategists claim that the "forward-based systems" are necessary for the national security of the USA, that they serve to repell the "Soviet threat" and contribute to the maintenance of peace. Facts, however, testify to the contrary. It is American bases that form a tight circle around the territories of the USSR and the other socialist states and not the other way round. It is the American bases that threaten the security of many states--and not only socialist states--being instruments of political and often military pressure.

In 1977 American forces overseas increased by 27,000 to 490,000. There are 224,300 U.S. troops in the FRG, 20,100 in Great Britain, 11,400 in Italy, 9,200 in Spain, 48,000 in Japan and Okinawa, 40,500 in South Korea, 16,000 in the Philippines, 9,300 in the Panama Canal Zone, etc.

These figures are closely linked with the figures showing the growth of the U.S. war budget. In 1960 the U.S. military budget amounted to 50 billion dollars. The figure was 100 billion in 1975 and rose to 116.8 billion dollars in the first year of the Carter administration. The projected Defence Department budget for the fiscal year 1979 is to reach 130 billion dollars. Out of this vast sum billions of dollars are earmarked for long-term projects to develop new weapons systems.

Direct military expenditure of the NATO countries rose from 18.4 billion dollars in 1949 to 155 billion in 1976 (not counting the military budgets of Greece and Turkey). The NATO military expenditure in 1977 topped the 165 billion dollar mark, according to data published in the Western press.

These figures speak for themselves!

The enemies of detente are not concerned with the destinies of the world. They also act contrary to the fundamental interests of their own countries no matter how much they talk to prove the opposite.

SARDINIA BOMBING SHOWS 'DANGER PRESENTED BY U.S. BASES'

LD132004Y Moscow TASS in English 1855 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Rome, February 13, TASS--A pilot of a U.S. war plane dropped "by mistake" a 200-kilogram bomb on Capo Malfatano settlement situated near the biggest town of the Italian Island of Sardinia, Port Cagliari. A powerful explosion caused panic among the local population and tourists. It is only by a lucky chance that no one was hurt.

This incident that could have resulted in a tragedy happened last week during the military exercises of NATO units off Sardinia's coast. The bomb was dropped from a plane that had taken off from the U.S. aircraft carrier "Nimitz". It is only today that the explosion was reported by the ANSA agency. The agency says that the competent military authorities started the investigation.

It seemed to me that a war began, an ANSA correspondent was told by a Cagliari resid Sandro Fronga, who witnessed the explosion when he was staying in Capo Malfatano with his wife and three children. Jet planes were roaring overhead, then an explosion broke out....

The explosion of a high-yield bomb that was dropped from a U.S. plane was another indication to Sardinia's people of a constant danger presented by numerous NATO bases and ranges in the island. The U.S. atomic submarine "Ray" has suffered a disaster off Sardinia in the autumn of last year. The damaged ship was later repaired in a dock of the U.S. base for atomic submarines in the Madalena Island near Sardinia.

The Italian press wrote that Sardinia has been turned into a huge arsenal by the NATO military. In addition to a base for atomic submarines, there exist in Sardinia dozens of ranges, ammunition and fuel depots, airfields and piers for warships. Italy's democratic public demanded many times that resolute measures should be taken to ensure security of the local population. But dangerous incidents continue.

'PENTAGON, NATO MILITARISTS' SEEKING TO PREVENT DETENTE

LD060704Y Moscow TASS in English 0600 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

["PRAVDA: Who Stands In the Way of Detente..."--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, February 6, TASS--The Pentagon and NATO militarists under the pressure of monopolies and political circles which represent them are seeking, cost what it may, to escalate the arms race, to prevent detente--both political and military, "PRAVDA" writes in its commentary today.

To further this aim, they are fanning up the false thesis on the growing "menace from the East" which allegedly prompts the need for the Western countries to take urgent measures to build up armaments.

The opponents of relaxation of international tension even use Soviet-American negotiations on limitation of strategic offensive armaments. Advocating in word attainment of such an agreement, the NATO military and its flunkies intensively propagandize the thesis that allegedly Western Europe, as the newspaper "Washington POST" put it, does not want the United States to give up, as a result of the negotiations, the would-be weapon with the help of which they can ensure their defences.

The intentions of the Pentagon and the NATO military to build up the arms race, "PRAVDA" writes in conclusion, run counter to the interests of detente, peace and security of the peoples.

ARGUMENTS FOR NEUTRON BOMB CALLED ILLOGICAL, UNREALISTIC

LD131505Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEVDA in Russian 10 Feb 78 p 3 LD

[Article by L. Semeyko, chief of a section of the Institute of the United States and Canada of the USSR Academy of Sciences: "The Pentagon's Neutron Stake"]

[Text] It is no accident that the development of plans in the United States for the production of neutron weapons and their inclusion in NATO's nuclear arsenal has evoked such decisive condemnation among the world public. Realizing these plans means in the final analysis taking a major step toward nuclear war. The situation is exactly thus, however hard the Pentagon strategists try to prove that neutron weapons will in fact restrain nuclear conflict.

In the political plane the new type of nuclear weapon can by no means serve as an instrument for "preserving peace." By creating this weapon it is possible only to slow down the process of detente, to seriously complicate the military-political situation in Europe, and to increase the sides' distrust. To assert the opposite is so difficult that the advocates of the new weapon generally prefer to bypass this aspect and concentrate their attention on the military-strategic side of the matter. But even in the military-strategic plane there is a lack of logic in the Pentagon's "reasonings."

It is asserted that the neutron bomb insures so-called "maximum flexibility" in the waging of war. Attempts to find a "flexible strategy" are not new, but what has been found does not suit the Pentagon: Any "flexibility" until now has in effect turned on the inevitability, or at least the too high probability, of the escalation of nuclear war with the prospect of the nuclear destruction of the United States. But where is the guarantee that neutron weapons will be more "elastic" that so-called tactical nuclear weapons? The fact that neutron weapons, as it were, wipe out the distinction between nuclear and conventional weapons does not at all indicate the "flexibility" of this means, but that the transition to the striking of neutron blows could simply take place sooner after the start of conflict. In other words, the escalation of nuclear conflict could begin sooner. How can there be any question of "flexibility" here?

Striving, allegedly, for "flexibility" in the forms and methods of waging war, the Pentagon strategists remain true to the strategic canons which have been adopted in the use of nuclear power. A. Frey, a member of the Council on International Relations (New York), confirmed this in this way: "...The main objection to the neutron bomb is an objection against tactical nuclear weapons as a whole. The neutron bomb does not mean departing from the principles adopted for the defense of Europe by means of tactical nuclear weapons." Moreover, in this connection tactical nuclear weapons are synthesized in their use with neutron weapons. This is what Pentagon representatives themselves say on this question: "The 'Lance' neutron warheads, like neutron missiles, would not be used in isolation, but in the form of group attacks using a series of 30-50 warheads, some of which might not be enhanced radiation weapons." In other words, the Pentagon even envisages the simultaneous striking of neutron and nuclear blows. Haven't the American strategists got a "flexible" approach to the waging of war "neutron style"? Such an approach can only open up the path to faster nuclear escalation--in fact, to just that escalation the United States by all accounts would like to avoid in order to save its own territory.

It is well known that one U.S. military-strategic concept is the concept of a "high nuclear threshold," that is, the use of nuclear weapons at the latest possible stage of conflict in order to delay to the maximum extent the striking of a destructive blow in reply. But neutron weapons will probably lower this threshold. "Scissors" are being created in strategic principles for which the whole world might pay too high a price.

The Pentagon also cites another "argument." Neutron weapons, by virtue of their limited destructive capability and high precision of attack on military targets, will, they say, "save" Europe from catastrophic destruction. Precisely this thesis is being intensively foisted on the world public's awareness. But here too the Pentagon is in contradiction with reality.

First, it is quite well known that the territory of Western Europe is very densely populated and developed. This also applies to the territory of the FRG, which NATO believes would be the main area of military actions. To prove that this territory "cannot stand" nuclear attacks, but will "withstand" neutron ones is a hopeless attempt, since there are no scales which could accurately weigh the consequences of the two kinds of destructive attacks.

Second, the Pentagon and the U.S. joint chiefs of staff do not by any means intend to renounce the struggle for inhabited points--that would be contrary to official views. The American Army regulation FM-100-5 directly states: "Critical, serious conflicts in Germany will undoubtedly entail repeated, almost uninterrupted battles for major cities, towns and villages." Third and finally, taking into account the probability of the escalation of conflict, surely the destruction in Europe from implementation of the "neutron plus atom" formula will not be less than with the application of nuclear weapons along? Without doubt, no. Consequently, neutron weapons have at the very least the potential for not reducing but increasing the scale of destruction. However, according to the Pentagon's logic, especially prepared for this, the picture should be the other way round. But this is indeed a monstrous deceit of the European peoples.

But if neutron weapons do not move nuclear war further away but closer, and if their use will not reduce but increase the scale of losses and destruction on the European continent, then why is the Pentagon creating them? The fact is that for the U.S. military leadership these aspects are by no means decisive. The true aims of the American military leadership in connection with the new weapon do not by any means consist of averting war. They consist of increasing the nuclear might of the United States and NATO, giving it a more offensive nature, obtaining military advantages over the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact organization, "legalizing" the use of a broader spectrum of types of nuclear ammunition, and at the same time nuclear weapons as a whole, strengthening their influence in NATO and satisfying the demands of the military-industrial complex. These are aims of virtually preparing war, not averting it, aims of a policy "from a position of strength."

However, these aims are illusory, of course. The appearance of neutron missile warheads and artillery missiles in addition to existing nuclear ammunition would lead to a certain increase in the NATO bloc's military might. Obviously the offensive potential of U.S. and NATO ground forces would also grow: where only neutron weapons had been used, it would be easier to advance through "humanely" preserved cities and settlements than through extensive zones of destruction, obstructions and fires. It was no accident, we must suppose, that U.S. Defense Secretary H. Brown stated last October: "In my opinion, this (neutron) weapon provides immense military advantages." [paragraph continues]

As is well known, however, action gives rise to reaction, and in the last analysis NATO would gain nothing from this. "Sooner or later--and usually sooner, not later--the Russians will be able to create any weapon the United States is capable of creating. One wonders what will become of the extra restraining factor the neutron bomb is supposed to give NATO if the Warsaw Pact acquires it"--this formulation of the question by P. Holt, former chief of the staff of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, reflects the fully justified doubts of right-thinking circles in the United States. These doubts, one must suppose, have become even stronger since Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's warning that if the neutron bomb is created in the West--created against us--then the Soviet Union will be obliged to respond to that challenge. The USSR is not striving for military supremacy but it will not permit the United States to have military supremacy.

Also illusory is the U.S. desire to "legalize" the use of nuclear weapons on the grounds that the consequences of such use would be limited. The Pentagon's attempts to introduce various sets of rules for the "nuclear game" are very insistent. About 5 years ago such attempts were undertaken in the sphere of strategic nuclear war with the declaration of the concept of "selection of targets" ("limited strategic nuclear war"), and now they are being undertaken in the sphere of a theater nuclear war by the declaration of the concept of neutron weapons. But any such concepts are doomed to failure. There are not and cannot be guarantees of limiting the scale of nuclear conflict at any level--global, regional or local.

Finally, the calculations of American militarist forces on intensifying their influence in NATO and strengthening that bloc by means of the neutron "gift" also look very dubious. Far from all Western European NATO members are prepared to agree to the deployment of neutron weapons on their own territory at the cost of the prospect of their "limited" destruction.

The Pentagon's neutron stake is justified neither politically nor strategically, not to mention its highly cruel, inhuman nature. Nevertheless, the Pentagon is striving to speed up the development, production and deployment of the neutron bomb. It is not now a question of the technical aspect--completing the design of neutron weapons is evidently not all that complex. As the Washington POST reported last summer, neutron warheads have long since been installed on "Spartan" and "Sprint" antimissiles, and for the final completion of the design of their ground version, the American press indicates, it is only necessary to carry out some nuclear tests. It is a question of the political decision which the U.S. President has not yet made finally--whether to begin production of neutron missile and artillery ammunition or to renounce them (the subsequent decision of the American Congress will also be fundamentally important).

The Soviet Union proposes that agreement be reached on a mutual renunciation of production of neutron weapons--that new weapon of mass destruction of people--that the military strategic position in Europe be stabilized, and that more favorable conditions be insured for the development of the process of political and military detente, including for the talks on the reduction of armed forces and arms in central Europe and other talks on arms limitation and disarmament. [paragraph continues]

Peace can be strengthened above all by renouncing new rounds of the arms race and going over to the limitation and reduction of arms. And if people in the United States want an advance in this pivotal direction of Soviet-American relations not in words but in deeds, if they are really striving for peace, as has been declared more than once at the highest level, then one of the most urgent steps would be the renunciation of the neutron stake. There are still potentials for averting a new stage in the nuclear arms race. The very near future, apparently, will show whether they will be transformed into reality.

REPORTS ON U.S. URANIUM GOING TO ISRAEL CITED

LD070146Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2242 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow--According to official reports, in recent years 4 tons of uranium and plutonium have disappeared completely from the United States, writes SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA. The matter concerns the mysterious cases of "leakages" of nuclear raw materials from American atomic establishments.

For a long time all these reports were kept strictly secret. However, under pressure from the public the U.S. Government was forced to lift the veil of secrecy.

Having made public information concerning the "leakage" of strategic raw material the authorities first of all announced that the possibility of the lost uranium having found its way into the hands of extremists or into the possession of a country attempting to create its own nuclear weapons has been discounted. However, facts which have appeared in the Western press recently show evidence that this is exactly what happened.

The nuclear raw material from American atomic establishments has found its way to Israel.

It has been discovered, continues SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, that over a period of 10 years a total of 572 pounds of enriched uranium has "disappeared" from one enterprise in Apollo. If one takes into account the fact that US specialists reckon 11-20 pounds of plutonium are necessary to manufacture an explosive nuclear device, then based on the amount of the materials which have disappeared it would be possible to produce several dozen bombs equal in power to the one dropped on Hiroshima.

The activities of the corporation to which the enterprise in Apollo belongs were investigated by the U.S. Secret Service. It was established that its president Zalman Shapiro, keeps up close links with Israel and acts as a go-between for Tel Aviv in the purchase of nuclear equipment in America and also the training in the United States of Israeli specialists in the sphere of nuclear physics. The U.S. Justice Department had started preparing material for his prosecution, but on "orders from above" all material in the investigation was made secret and the matter was dropped.

This is happening because, the paper concludes, the U.S. Government is trying to hide from the public and Congress the truth concerning secret supplies to Israel of American enriched uranium for the manufacture there of nuclear weapons.

'DEEP SPLIT' OVER CANAL SEEN IN U.S. RULING CIRCLES

LD132047Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1315 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Washington--Yuriy Levchenko, TASS correspondent writes: The first week of discussions of the question of the ratification of new agreements on the Panama Canal in the Senate has ended. These agreements, signed last year by the leaders of the United States and Panama after prolonged and stubborn negotiations, are to replace the agreement of 1930 imposed on Panama by Washington, which has turned the Canal Zone into a colonial enclave of the United States in Latin America.

The new agreements, despite their compromise character, represent an important success of the people of Panama in the struggle for sovereignty over their country. They foresee the handing over to Panama of complete control of the Canal Zone and its buildings by the year 2000. They also guarantee freedom of peaceful shipping on the waterways. The question about the review of the old agreement on the Panama Canal and its return to its legal owner--the people of Panama--met with fierce resistance from American reaction, which is striving to perpetuate U.S. control over a considerable part of the territory of the independent Latin American state. The henchmen of the conservative forces in the Senate both from the Republican and Democratic parties have united in one bloc, trying not to allow ratification of the new agreements.

The deep split in the ruling circles of the United States has led to a situation when by the beginning of the discussion of the agreement in the Senate neither their supporters nor those opposed had enough votes. This is why the first days of the debate in the Senate were marked by sharp struggle for the votes of "hesitating" senators who have not yet taken up firm positions. Opponents of the agreements intend to try to block ratification of the agreements by including in their texts "amendments" and "supplements," which would, by their character, mean a revision of the arrangements worked out by the Governments of the United States and Panama. According to the words of one of the leaders of the opposition, J. Allen (Democrat from Alabama), "a dozen essential amendments" will be entered in the agreements. Reactionary forces are preparing to propose "corrections" which in particular would allow the United States to keep their military bases and troops after the year 2000 in the Canal Zone and would also give Washington the right to prohibit transit through the canal, under defined circumstances, of vessels and ships of other countries. Such amendments, the Washington POST writes, would be obviously unacceptable for Panama and would "no doubt evoke indignation because the preservation of such 'rights' by the United States would in fact mean further denial of sovereignty of Panama over its own territory."

'BLIND EYE' TO ALLEGATIONS ABOUT U.S. OFFICIAL'S PAST

LD101224Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1205 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

["Unmasking Documents"--TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, 10 February--The Soviet Embassy in Washington has handed over to the U.S. State Department documents of the USSR prosecutor's office which testify to the fact that a high-ranking official of the U.S. foreign policy department, K. Varvariv, deputy to the U.S. permanent representative at UNESCO, actively cooperated with the Nazis on temporarily occupied Soviet territory during World War II.

As is well known, the Soviet press has already exposed the criminal past of K. Varvariv. However, U.S. official authorities have so far preferred to turn a blind eye to the serious accusations made against this Nazi accomplice and have even tried to shield him.

FUNDS FOR RADIOS LIBERTY, FREE EUROPE 'SQUANDERED'

LD131142Y Moscow in English to North America 0030 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

[Vladimir Bolshakov commentary]

[Text] The United States Congress is again discussing an increase in the spending on Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe, set up by the CIA on the European Continent at the time of the cold war. You will hear the views of our news analyst, Vladimir Bolshakov:

The administration has asked Congress for a cool sum of $79 million for the next fiscal year to finance the (?newly) based radio stations in West Germany, and this is despite the fact that they should have been thrown into the (?dustbin) of the cold war long time ago. And this spending is rising with every passing year. This time it has been suggested to push it up by $6 million as compared with the current year.

In a bid to whitewash somehow this waste of taxpayers' money, the leading officials of the United States administration talk about the so-called freedom of information, and they even invoke the final act of the Helsinki conference. However, the free exchange of information should promote better understanding among countries and nations and thus contribute to strengthening world peace and security. This point was reaffirmed in the discussions of the European conference and, incidentally, this exchange has been considerably expanded in recent years to become one of the beneficial effects of the Helsinki conference. Yet the American radio stations Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe are outside this (?process). What's more, their activities as before run counter to the desire of the nation for peace, mutual understanding and trust.

Although at present these American radio stations are formally subordinated to the United States board of international broadcasting and not to the CIA, most of their staff are full-time CIA employees as before; others are former Nazi war criminals and present-day emigres from the socialist countries. And, as before, the activities of those radio centers have nothing in common with the exchange of information. They are nothing but an operation of the so-called psychological warfare against the socialist countries. Their broadcasts are stuffed with slanderous fabrications about the leaders of the socialist countries and the socialist system and, as one of the employees of those stations observed a short while ago, their objective is to encourage neocapitalism in the socialist countries. It means that the activities of Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe are directly aimed at undermining the political system in those countries.

Under the circumstances one can only be surprised at the American policymakers. On the one hand they talk of their desire to develop relations and cooperation with the Soviet Union, yet on the other they support and finance radio centers preaching hatred for the Soviet Union. When the Soviet Union and the United States established their diplomatic relations back in 1933, they agreed not to interfere in each other's domestic affairs, and it makes you wonder why the United States Congress continues to finance the American-owned radio stations year in and year out, although their activities are aimed at meddling in the domestic affairs of the Soviet people.

Much has been done in recent years to secure a turn for the better in Soviet-American relations. Agreements and treaties have been signed on cooperation in many fields. An atmosphere of trust between our two countries is gradually emerging, and relations between the United States and other socialist countries are also improving. In other words, the process of relaxation is going on and having its beneficial effects on international relations.

The question arises, therefore, whether in these conditions it is worthwhile for the American taxpayers to squander dozens of millions of dollars a year to finance radio centers sowing hatred and distrust among nations and whipping up tension. Undoubtedly there are many areas in the United States where the spending of $79 million could really benefit the people.

TURNER REMARKS ON CHANGES AT CIA REPORTED

LD141033Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Feb 78 p 5 LD

[Article by V. Korionov: "This Indefatigable Turner"]

[Text] CIA Director S. Turner does not like anonymity. The admiral wants his name to be constantly in the papers. Scarcely had TIME magazine published its 6 February interview with him when another magazine--U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT--offered some new revelations by the troublesome director.

The CIA's actions had caused such widespread indignation in the world that it was decided in Washington to implement certain cosmetic measures. It was announced, for example, that 820 of the 15,000 (18,000 according to other figures) officially acknowledged CIA employees would be dismissed.

In the U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT interview Turner hastened to pacify the "hawks": We are only talking about administrative personnel. "We are not reducing staff at foreign centers. We are not undermining their ability to gather intelligence for us," the director proclaimed. During the past 30 years, he said with an air of innocence, the CIA "has influenced events in Guatemala, Iran, Cuba, Vietnam and Angola." So intervention, bacteriological warfare, the dispatch of armed gangs of mercenaries and the overthrow of lawful governments in other countries--all this is called simply "influence" in the language of the head of the spies' lair in Langley. "We are not giving it up..." Turner humbly announces.

Credulous people might have thought that the "reorganization" of the CIA announced by the White House on 23 January would restrict its tyranny. The admiral hastens to make it clear. He declares: "We must enter a new era of intelligence." And he explains: [paragraph continues]

"In accordance with this new order from the President I will be allowed to give assignments to all government intelligence organs.... I am authorized to draw up and then submit for examination by the President a unified national intelligence budget and to give the President recommendations on what we should buy, how many employees we need and how much money we need for all intelligence organs.... As director of central intelligence I will have greater powers than this post offered previously."

Yes, those people across the ocean who like to interfere in other peoples' affairs can rest assured. Mr Turner is at his post!

REPUTATIONS OF NEW FBI, CIA OFFICIALS REVIEWED

LD101202Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0849 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Washington, 10 February--The Senate of the U.S. Congress has confirmed William Webster as director of the FBI and Frank Carlucci as deputy director of the CIA.

Webster and Carlucci are sufficiently well known in the United States. Their reputations, according to the press, leaves a great deal to be desired. Thus while serving as a federal judge in the city of St Louis, Webster "won fame" by his overt bias against Negroes and members of other national minorities.

In the course of Senate hearings, leaders of U.S. public organizations presented documentary evidence confirming Webster's racist views and his contempt for civil rights. Nor did the new FBI director bother to conceal his "platform." He openly voiced his admiration for Edgar Hoover, who has become an ominous symbol of the violation of human rights, its laws and the U.S. Constitution to Americans.

Before his elevation as "No 2" at the CIA Carlucci was U.S. ambassador to Portugal. The press linked his name with the secret operations of the American intelligence service in that country designed to prevent the accession of the Portuguese leftwing forces to power.

U.S. 'DUPLICITY' OVER HUMAN RIGHTS CRICITIZED

LD101242Y Moscow TASS in English 1212 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Washington, February 10, TASS--TASS correspondent Vitaliy Gan reports:

The U.S. public got an official confirmation of the duplicity of the U.S. Government, which in words expresses "concern over violations" of human rights in other countries and in actual fact gives a wide support to odious repressive regimes.

The U.S. Department of State prepared a series of reports and sent them to Congress. The reports describe the state of affairs in the area of human rights in foreign states which are linked with the USA by close military, financial and economic relations. Unable to evade the objective, documented facts the authors of the reports have to admit that repressions and violations of human rights are practised on a mass scale in most of countries which are recipients of U.S. aid.

Washington's such "clients" as Israel, South Korea, Uruguay, El Salvador, Paraguay, and other reactionary regimes of Latin America, Africa and Asia are among the most rabid suppressors of civil rights and freedoms.

As is clear from a report on Israel, Tel Aviv turns a deaf ear to the preaching by its overseas "patron" and treats inhumanly the population of the occupied Arab territories. Israel's obvious lack of correspondence with the lofty moral norms about which Washington talks tirelessly does not prevent it nevertheless from receiving U.S. military and economic aid to the tune of over two billion dollars a year.

The U.S. administration's high-flown rhetoric did not produce any impression on Latin American dictators who are dependent on Washington. They, according to the authors of the reports, do not stop short of killings, torture and beating of their citizens. It is obvious that repressions against people are to a large extent financed at the expense of U.S. aid. U.S. aid to Latin America ran at an aggregate of a billion dollars in the 1977 fiscal year.

Seoul's arsenal includes the most disgusting methods of suppression of human rights. It, however, came to believe in its own impunity, relying on a lavish aid from the USA which, according to data which are from being complete, gives aid to the tune of 150 million-dollars to South Korea every year.

Concrete evidence of the most flagrant trampling of human rights by U.S. "clients" ought, it would seem, to make the United States cease supporting the dictators. Such a step has long been demanded by both the U.S. and international public.

But Washington does not even think of this, as U.S. Government spokesmen frankly stated. The AP news agency writes that the link between an appraisal of the state of affairs in the area of human rights and a level of aid will not be compulsory in the Carter administration's new foreign aid appropriations.

In other words, the United States intends to continue shutting eyes at suppression of civil rights and freedoms in countries which are of importance for U.S. politico-strategic plans. It is difficult not to agree with the remark of the newspaper New York TIMES which wrote, in comment on Washington's hypocritical stance, that the main criterion of U.S. friendliness to that or this regime is the extent of the latter's allegiance to anti-communism, as well as availability of a favourable clime for U.S. monopolies' capital investments.

PEKING LEADERSHIP SUPPORTS U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE IN ASIA

OW101756Y Moscow in Mandarin to China 1230 GMT 6 Feb 78 OW

[Nikolayev commentary: "In the Interest of U.S. Bellicose Elements"]

[Text] Dear listeners: Chinese newspapers and journals have long ceased denouncing the U.S. military presence in Asia. They have a reason for doing so. As a matter of fact, Peking officially adopted a stand on this question in the early 1970s which shocked the people of Asia. Chinese leaders at that time said that the Pentagon's military bases in Asia and the Pacific should remain, contending that these bases served to guard against Soviet hegemonism. Peking made these statements befriending the enemy in October 1976 after the gang of four was purged. According to the foreign press, this stand remains in effect today.

It is interesting to point out that in order to protect the Pentagon's strategic interests, U.S. imperialism and U.S.-oriented reactionaries in Asia also make use of Peking's stand. Calling for expanded U.S. military presence, these reactionaries have spread many lies based on the so-called Soviet military threat. Under the cover of this sinister propaganda campaign, the U.S. military not only wishes to maintain but to strengthen its military presence in Asia. U.S. presence is now guaranteed by some 100,000 troops manning several hundred military bases in Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, the Philippines and other islands in the Pacific and Indian Oceans. The U.S. Seventh Fleet consisting of 65 warships, 250 planes and 30,000 sailors is plying the Asian coasts. The United States is building new bases on Diego Garcia and in Micronesia and Australia in order to encircle Asia.

The Asian people's resolute struggle, which is supported by the member countries of the socialist community, has forced U.S. imperialism to resort to deception by talking about withdrawing U.S. troops from the Asian Continent. In fact, the Pentagon is taking measures to compensate for its withdrawal from an Asian country by increasing its military strength in other areas. For instance, the Pentagon recently increased its military assistance to the Kuomintang authorities on Taiwan. Everybody knows that the Pentagon considers Taiwan its biggest strategic fortress in the Far East. In the past 2 years alone, the Pentagon provided the Chiang gang with over $500 million worth of military equipment. U.S. troops are stationed on this island which belongs to the PRC.

The New York TIMES once pointed out that if and when necessary, Taiwan will receive support from U.S. air and naval forces stationed in the Philippines and on Okinawa in accordance with the current U.S.-Chiang mutual defense treaty. Thus, the ever stronger U.S. military presence directly violates the interests of the Asian people, including the Chinese people. The Peking leaders' stand regarding U.S. military presence and U.S. bases in Asia is obviously not in the interests of the Chinese people.

On more than one occasion, Peking officials, Li Hsien-nien among others, have said that U.S. forces stationed in other countries all over the world are playing an affirmative and [word indistinct] role and, therefore, must not only remain but must be strengthened. Basing their foreign policy on anti-Sovietism, the Peking leaders are ready to achieve their goals at the expense of the peace and security of the people of Asia, including the Chinese people, and to plunge the world into the mire of a world war. According to some members of a U.S. congressional delegation to Peking, Chinese leaders actually injected anti-Sovietism into all conversations and hinted that the USSR was the common enemy of the Peking leaders and the Western imperialist countries. Just as Fidel Castro pointed out, the Chinese leaders' policy coincides with that of imperialism in all aspects of international relations without exception.

Allied with imperialism and world reactionaries, the Chinese people will have no future whatsoever. We know that the Chinese people are the most selfless, heroic and revolutionary people. People can be deceived for a time, but not forever.

CHINA INTERFERES IN PHILIPPINE AFFAIRS, PREVENTS NORMAL TIES

OW1004417 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to Southeast Asia 0930 GMT 5 Feb 78 OW

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The Philippines' main problem is that it is a military state. The country is administered through presidential decrees, the National Assembly has been suspended and activities by political parties are banned. This has resulted in accusations by the political opposition and some Western capitalists that President Marcos is practicing, in their words, despotic control.

But the president has made it known in no uncertain terms that there are important reasons for the present failure of democracy. According to Marcos, two of these reasons are the rebellion of the Moslem Moro people in the southern part of the country and the sabotage activities of the outlawed New People's Army. The Philippine National Defense Ministry's 1977 (?work) report pointed out that the rebellious Moro elements and the New People's Army pose a dangerous threat to Philippine security and stability.

According to the defense ministry, both of these movements are receving financial aid and weapons from abroad. Irrefutable facts show that Peking is providing weapons to the New People's Army. During a trial in Manila last summer, it was ascertained that large quantities of weapons have been shipped to these terrorists from China. In a report on the political orientation of the organization's leader, an AFP correspondent in Manila pointed out that the leader's idol is Mao Tse-tung. But despite the fact that some factors of political instability still exist, President Marcos has positively said that the country will eventually see the end of the military state.

In reports released on the Overseas Chinese affairs conference held not long ago in Peking, the Overseas Chinese are described as Peking's pillar of support in advancing its policies in other countries. They are called on to do all they can to strengthen contacts with mainland China. PEOPLE'S DAILY says that China welcomes those Overseas Chinese who want to become Chinese citizens. This policy also has had certain repercussions in the Philippines. To date, only a very small portion of the Chinese in the Philippines have become citizens of their host country. The result is a tense relationship between the Chinese and the local citizens.

The Philippines is trying to gradually free itself from the military shackles and the countless political and economic fetters imposed since World War II by the United States on its former Pacific colony. To not be dependent on Washington means to expand political contacts elsewhere and find new allies. (?Someone) has described the current Philippine foreign policy as the changed foreign policy of Mr Marcos. Has he taken a wrong path?

The Philippines once entertained the hope of normalizing relations with China. There were some people who held that the steps taken by the Marcos government in 1975 would be conducive to solving some of the country's economic problems, the Overseas Chinese problem, the problem of the struggle against the pro-Peking subversive group and so on. But these hopes have recently evaporated. As we have already noted, Peking is still interfering in Philippine internal affairs. The position adopted by China on the U.S. military involvement in Asia has impaired Philippine efforts to defend its sovereignty in talks with the United States.

Territorial disputes have erupted between Peking and Manila. In June, 1976, because a (?Philippine-Swedish) firm wanted to explore petroleum deposits in the Nansha Islands, the Chinese Foreign Ministry issued a stern statement unequivocally claiming that these islands were Chinese territory. Now the Southeast Asian press is full of very disappointed appraisals of the present situation and prospects for relations between the Philippines and China.

The establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and the Philippines has raised the long-time Soviet contacts with this developing Southeast Asian country to a new level. Cultural exchanges have constantly expanded, and trade and economic cooperation have developed daily between them. Soviet ships are transporting Philippine commodities along the international shipping routes, and joint Soviet-Philippine enterprises have been formed. Commercial profits are not the only reason behind these developments, although this also plays a very important role. The most important factor contributing to the policy of diversification of Philippine foreign relations is the strengthened ties with the Soviet Union. This policy has made it possible for the Philippines to reduce its dependence on imperialist countries.

This is the general situation in the Philippines. This country, which has complicated domestic problems, is frequently under external pressures. Nevertheless, it is continuing to pursue its national interests and is making prominent contributions to expanding detente and peace in Asia.

EEC CAUTIONED ON THREAT OF CHINA'S 'HEGEMONISTIC AMBITIONS'

LD090750Y Moscow TASS in English 0734 GMT 9 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 9, TASS--In Brussels the European Economic Community (the Common Market) and China initialled a trade agreement under which Peking is granted the most favoured nation treatment.

Mikhail Georgiyev, PRAVDA's commentator, writes: Peking started intensively looking for allies in the West to help it with up-to-date weapons and newest technology. "At present China has a strategic weakness for Europe," the newspaper LE MONDE writes in this connection. Numerous delegations tour West European countries, establishing business contacts with representatives of companies which manufacture rockets and aircraft, anti-tank weapons and helicopters. The Japanese KYODO news agency reports that talks on the purchase of several tens of West German helicopters for the modernization of the Chinese Army began in recent days. The agency reports that military sources say that China intends to buy not less than 300 British "Harrier" fighter planes.

The commentary says that the conclusion of the agreement with the EEC, as observers consider, will meet the distant aims of the Maoists who count on supplementing their military arsenal from the arsenals of NATO countries on a large scale. The more so as an EEC spokesman at the talks directly stated that the agreement does not envisage any restrictions on the sale of strategic goods to China. China does not at all intend to be a market for Western countries, as some figures of the Common Market think. On the example of France, as the newspaper LE FIGARO writes, the Chinese "are making it clear that if France does not supply them with what they want in the military-field, they are not going to be in a hurry to place orders in other branches of the French industry".

Certain circles in the West that dream of using China in an anti-Soviet game should not forget that Peking's hegemonistic ambitions are a threat not only to socialist countries. They are dangerous to all, and to Western states as well, the commentator emphasises.

TITO NOTES PREPARATIONS, GOALS OF 11TH LCY CONGRESS

LD131031Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Feb 78 p 5 LD

[TASS report: "Preparation for 11th LCY Congress"]

[Text] Belgrade, 8 February--In Igalo on the Adriatic coast, League of Communists of Yugoslavia [LCY] President J. Broz Tito has received LCY leaders who told him about the preparation of the draft documents for the 11th LCY Congress.

J. Broz Tito noted that preparations for the 11th LCY Congress and the congresses and conferences in Yugoslavia's republics and autonomous provinces are proceeding successfully. He pointed out that one of the most important issues is the question of how the LCY ought to implement its leading role in Yugoslav society. The LCY, he stressed, must constantly strengthen its relations with the working people and their collectives and with them elaborate policy and struggle for the adoption of the most progressive decisions.

J. Broz Tito noted that a firm link with the masses, with the working class, is one of the most important principles of the LCY--a principle which insured its leading role in the prewar years, the wartime period and the postwar period. The LCY--the main mobilizing force of the masses--struggles to insure that the working people make decisions on all the main questions concerning the development of society and united labor.

He pointed out that the development of democratic relations in Yugoslav society must further implement the revolution's aims and must not be a screen behind which forces hostile to socialist Yugoslavia hide and operate. The question of the place and role of the LCY primary organization is acquiring particular importance. It is necessary for it, guided by the principles of democratic centralism, to stimulate the communists' initiative to a greater extent and strengthen their responsibility.

J. Broz Tito went on to say that the Yugoslav working people's struggle for socialist socioeconomic relations based on the principles of self-management is being carried out in an increasingly organized and intensive fashion.

One issue which we must constantly remember is the struggle to raise labor productivity.

Much has been done in the last few years for the ideological and political education of communists and all the working people, the LCY president noted. This work must be increasingly systematic and organized.

J. Broz Tito positively assessed the cooperation between the LCY, the Socialist Alliance of the Working People of Yugoslavia and other sociopolitical organizations and the communist, workers and socialist parties and progressive movements. He pointed out the complexity and contradictory nature of present international relations, stressing the need for new efforts by all countries and progressive forces to eliminate military hotbeds and everything which jeopardizes the national independence and freedom of countries and peoples.

JAROSZEWICZ VISIT LEADS TO 'STRENGTHENING ALLIANCE'

LD071345Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Strengthening Alliance"]

[Text] Warsaw, 3 February--The development of friendship and cooperation between Poland and the Soviet Union and the peoples of the two countries constantly receives the primary attention of the CPSU and the Polish United Workers Party [PZPR]. Personal meetings between the leaders of the two countries, Comrades L.I. Brezhnev and E. Gierek, play a special role in strengthening the relations between the USSR and Poland, the PZPR Central Committee organ TRYBUNA LUDU comments today. The recent working visit to the USSR by P. Jaroszewicz, chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers, also made a great contribution to the development of relations between the two countries.

Jaroszewicz' visit, the newspaper notes, took place in an atmosphere of friendship, sincerity and full mutual understanding. This is particularly emphasized by the fact that he was received by L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

At the talks in Moscow both sides exchanged opinions on the main directions of our cooperation, TRYBUNA LUDU writes. That cooperation is of paramount significance for Poland, since the USSR is our country's largest economic and trade partner. Many sectors of Polish industry were born and have developed thanks to contacts with the Soviet Union.

The working visit to Moscow by the chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers is an expression of the strengthening alliance between Poland and the USSR, a commentary on Polish television has said. The alliance between our countries is especially stable because it is supported by a common ideology, political unity and the immovable principles of socialist internationalism.

POLISH-SOVIET TRADE PROTOCOL SIGNED IN MOSCOW

LD112333Y Warsaw PAP in English 2110 GMT 11 Feb 76 LD

[Text] Moscow, 11 Feb, PAP--Talks between the delegations from the Polish Ministry of Internal Trade and Services and from the Soviet Ministry of Trade were held in Moscow from February 6-10.

After the talks, both sides signed protocol providing for exchange of commodities and scientific-technological cooperation in 1978. The protocol envisages an over 40 percent increase in mutual deliveries of commodities. The USSR exports to Poland will include among others, watches, cameras, tinned fish, glass and silverware. The Polish side will export footwear, various fabrics, "Nysa" and "Zuki" vans. Both sides agreed to further develop the network of national shops and restaurants both in Poland and the USSR and the exchange of specialists.

SOVIET INSTITUTE DIRECTOR CALLS FOR CEMA-EEC TRADE PACT

LD131516Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1243 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

["A CEMA-EEC Agreement Would Be Mutually Advantageous"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow--Oleg Bogomolov, director of the Academy of Sciences Institute of Economics of the World Socialist System, writes: "The CEMA member countries continue to believe that the proposed agreement between CEMA and the EEC is necessary for constructive cooperation between the two organizations and for the constant and stable growth of their mutual trade."

The prominent Soviet scholar, writing in the journal KOMMUNIST, stresses that such an agreement "could not only improve the conditions for trade, economic and financial cooperation but could also lead to the development of relations in such fields as standardization, environmental protection, statistics and economic forecasts of productive and demand in agreed areas.

Bogomolov characterizes as "artificial and prejudiced" the assertions of the opponents of business cooperation that such cooperation with CEMA countries would allegedly make the EEC economy dangerously dependent on the socialist world. "The relaxation of tension is a process of strengthening trust among peoples, creating mutual guarantees and expanding cooperation with equal rights, in which the interests and risks of the partners are equally balanced, he writes. Warnings about a mythical "dependence" have the same political meaning as causing fear about a mythical "red danger."

Bogomolov criticizes the "model" of economic relations in Europe proposed by the West, in which the EEC as a whole would deal only with individual CEMA countries and not with the entire economic organization. "The socialist countries," he notes, "are in favor of a flexible arrangement of multilateral and bilateral relations between East and West Europe based on the consistent application of mutual equality. In this sense, general European solidarity would certainly benefit if business relations were established between the integrated associations, based on their common interest in solving the real economic problems of our continent.

The socialist states' point of departure is that the principles of international relations contained in the final act of the Helsinki conference create an efficient basis for the further development of stable, mutually advantageous business cooperation based on equal rights between the socialist and capitalist states. The economic, scientific and technical and cultural links developed on this basis form the living material of stable peace and are in the interests of all peoples.

CPSU PARTY WORKERS STUDY BCP IDEOLOGICAL WORK

LD070957Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[Text] TASS--In accordance with the plan for interparty links between the CPSU and the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP], a delegation of CPSU party workers headed by G.L. Smirnov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Propaganda Department, was in Bulgaria 26 January-3 February. The delegation traveled there to familiarize itself with the BCP's experience in enhancing the effectiveness of ideological educational work.

The delegation was received by A. Lilov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the BCP Central Committee.

ROMANIAN DEFENSE MINISTER DISCUSSES SOVIET-ROMANIAN MILITARY TIES

For the text of an article by Col Gen Ion Coman, Romanian minister of national defense, on the origins and development of Soviet-Romanian military ties, published in the 8 February KRASNAYA ZVEZDA to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy, see the Romanian section of the 10 February issue of the Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT.

AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR LEAVES MOSCOW, SEEN OFF BY KOSYGIN

LD131553Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russin 9 Feb 78 p 1 LD

[Text] B. Kreisky, federal chancellor of the Republic of Austria, who is in the USSR on a working visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government, held a press conference for Soviet and foreign journalists on 8 February. He highly rated the significance of his conversation with L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and of his talks in Moscow for the further development of Austrian-Soviet relations.

H. Standenat, Austrian ambassador to the USSR, held a reception in honor of B. Kreisky. Attending the reception were deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers N.K. Baybakov and V.A. Kirillin; USSR ministers and other officials.

The federal chancellor left Moscow the same day.

At the airport, which was bedecked with the state flags of the Republic of Austria and the Soviet Union, B. Kreisky was seen off by A.N. Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; V.A. Kirillin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; USSR Ministers K.I. Galanshin, N.S. Patolichev, K.N. Rudnev and V.I. Terebilov; V.F. Maltsev, USSR first deputy foreign minister; D.M. Gvishiani, deputy chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology; M.T. Yefremov, USSR ambassador to Austria and other officials.

Among the sendoff party was Heinrich Standenat, Austrian ambassador to the USSR.

GISCARD SPEECH NOTES FOREIGN POLICY, FRANCO-SOVIET RELATIONS

LD101548Y Moscow TASS in English 1537 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Paris, February 10, TASS--Speaking on French television, President Valery Giscard d'Estaing concentrated on questions of French foreign policy. In the course of his appearance he replied to questions by newsmen.

Valery Giscard d'Estaing noted the progress achieved in the relaxation of international tension. At the end of last year, he said, there was advance in Soviet-American talks on military detente, and economic and political cooperation is developing between the USSR and France. Valery Giscard d'Estaing stressed that Franco-Soviet relations are direct and are relations of trust. "No objective difficulties" exist between the two countries, he said.

The president said that France is "attentively following the course of the Belgrade meeting and, perhaps, at the appropriate moment will come out with an initiative to facilitate its successful completion."

Noting that France pursues an independent foreign policy and comes out for disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation , Valery Giscard d'Estaing pointed to the danger of both a quantitative and qualitative disruption of the existing equilibrium. Now, he said, along with the process of the building up of arms there is a rapid process of their perfection. Cruise missiles and neutron bombs are absolutely new types of military hardware and their development may have numerous consequences. France, the president said, wishes it to be possible simultaneously both to reduce arms stockpiles and to stop the search for ways of perfecting arms. He noted that should this be possible, France would be spared the need to further develop her armaments.

Speaking of the situation in Europe, the president noted that it has become "the biggest ever arsenal". Replying to a question whether the French strike force could be used for the "defence" of West Germany, Valery Giscard d'Estaing stated that "France opposes the hypothesis of directly or indirectly granting nuclear weapons to Federal Germany." "This is a fundamental concern for us", he said. "But the deployment of deterrent forces is shrouded in certain secrecy in what concerns the conditions of their use," the president added.

The French president expressed concern at the situation in the African Horn area. He said the restoration of peace in the area should be based, in particular, on the "principle of recognition of the borders between Ethiopia and Somalia inherited by them on acquisition of independence".

Valery Giscard d'Estaing said he intended to speak at the forthcoming special session of the United Nations General Assembly on disarmament and outline French proposals in that field.

BRANDT CRITICIZES SCALE OF ARMS EXPENDITURE

LD111208Y Moscow TASS in English 1146 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Bonn, February 11, TASS--A two-day meeting of the Bureau of Socialist International ended in Hamburg. Its participants, the leaders of socialist and social democratic parties of 29 countries, expressed concern over a difficult economic situation in Western countries. The speakers at the meeting pointed out that all attempts to decrease unemployment that are taken in developed capitalist countries proved to be fruitless.

The Chairman of the SDPG Willy Brandt expressed concern over the continued growth of spending for the arms race and pointed to the need of efforts in the sphere of international detente.

SPAIN'S FOREIGN MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON TIES WITH USSR

LD131555Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Feb 78 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Correspondent L. Kamynin interview with Spanish Foreign Minister Marcelino Oreja Aguirre: "Spain and the USSR: Favorable Prospects"]

[Text] Madrid--Diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Spain were established a year ago, on 9 February 1977. This was an important event for our two countries and for the process of detente and the development of cooperation among all the states of Europe.

In connection with the first anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Spain, Spanish Foreign Minister Marcelino Oreja Aguirre, answering the IZVESTIYA Madrid correspondent's questions, said: "We can congratulate each other on what has been achieved in such a short time."

"The establishment of diplomatic relations," the minister said, "opens up the path to the consolidation and development of contacts in various fields. Despite all the reverberations of the past, I think that we can assert that today there are favorable conditions for the further development of cooperation between the USSR and Spain.

"Over the past year contacts have already been established in many spheres: The political, economic, cultural, and information spheres and so forth. I hope, "the minister continued, "that this year their rate of development will be accelerated."

But we must avoid the temptation of excessive haste, that is, we must avoid striving to cover too much without the appropriate preparation. If we want our actions to produce effective results, each of our steps should be carefully conceived.

Touching on Spain's present foreign policy course, Minister Marcelino Oreja Aguirre said that the Spanish Government sees one of its paramount tasks in assisting the process of detente. Spain believes it is essential to contribute to the extent of its abilities in the implementation of effective disarmament measures, which would in addition to everything else make it possible to release enormous funds which could be channeled into the satisfaction of other urgent needs.

Marcelino Oreja noted that as foreign minister he frequently had the opportunity to speak about this in the international arena, particularly at the 32d UN General Assembly session, and that he had also spoken about it in parliament. He emphasized that there is undoubted agreement in Spain among all political groupings on this question. Our resolute action in support of disarmament, the minister stated, is of a realistic nature, since we cannot disregard the urgent requirements of security. Therefore we attach great significance to the forthcoming UN General Assembly special session on disarmament.

"Spain," the minister continued, "has from the very first highly assessed the potential of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. Despite the ideological differences and different political and socioeconomic systems, there is undoubtedly a basis for rapprochement among the European peoples, linked by a priceless treasury of culture and civilization which we must safeguard and develop in every way."

Noting Spain's active participation in the work of the all-European conference, the minister said that a possible result of positive activity was the opinion forming in Belgrade among all those taking part, including the Soviet Union, that the next meeting of representatives of the states taking part in the all-European conference should be held in Madrid. Spain is grateful for the trust placed in it by the European countries and, when the time comes, will regard the opportunity to display its hospitality as a great honor. The Spanish Government will do everything to continue to defend the ideas of security and cooperation in Europe and to insure that the forthcoming meeting really is an important step in the process of European detente.

Then the minister touched on bilateral relations between Spain and the Soviet Union. In the foreign minister's opinion, considering the firm determination of the two sides to promote their development, their potential is considerable. It may be asserted that 1978 will be highly positive and will undoubtedly mark a step forward compared with the past. The Spanish Government has already stated that it regards the development of relations with the Soviet Union as one of the paramount tasks of its foreign policy.

A number of draft agreements legally defining the framework of certain spheres of cooperation are now at the stage of study or are already being more or less practically discussed. In particular there is an agreement on two-way taxation, a cultural agreement, and an agreement on scientific and technical cooperation.

In conclusion Spanish Foreign Minister Marcelino Oreja Aguirre expressed the hope that Soviet-Spanish relations would be further developed. Our countries' different political systems, the minister stated, should not hinder the firm establishment of cordial and good relations, as is appropriate for sovereign states which respect each other.

As for economic cooperation, and particularly trade relations, we can undoubtedly count on considerable progress in this sphere. Their present level reflects neither the industrial potential nor the capacity of the Soviet and Spanish markets. In the minister's opinion, considerable growth can be expected in this sphere in the very near future.

PCP EXPRESSES LACK OF CONFIDENCE IN NEW GOVERNMENT

LD1315317 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[Correspondent B. Kotov dispatch: "Portuguese Communist Party Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] Lisbon, 8 February--A plenum of the Portuguese Communist Party [PCP] Central Committee has been held here. It examined the situation in the country since the formation of the coalition government of the Socialist Party [PS] and Social Democratic Center Party and the publication of its program.

The PCP Central Committee believes, the communique on the results of the plenum's work says, that both the composition of the government and its program fail to meet the needs of the present political, economic, financial and social situation of the country. A government with this kind of composition is incapable of solving the very grave problems which Portugal is facing.

The government program which has been submitted to parliament, the communique goes on to say, does not supply answers to the existing grave problems and in particular those of a financial and economic nature. Basically, the program reinforces all the main lines of the government course whose implementation during the 16 months of rule by the PS Cabinet demonstrated its inability to extricate the country from the crisis. The government program is overtly directed at restoring the power of big capital over Portugal's national economy and state apparatus. The program provides for new sacrifices to be imposed on the working people: wage restrictions, price rises and an increase in unemployment.

The plenum's resolution contains the PCP's specific proposals for overcoming the difficulties being experienced by the country. It is possible to do this, the document stresses, only through the preservation and strengthening of such important gains of the April revolution as nationalization, agrarian reform, workers' control in production, with strict observance of the Republican Constitution. A democratic alternative for emerging from the crisis is possible with the working people and not against them, and with the PCP and not against it.

BEIRUT QUIET BUT TENSE; HEAVY SHELLING NEAR ISRAELI BORDER

LD131418Y Moscow TASS in English 1414 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, February 13, TASS--The situation in the south of Lebanon remains extremely tense. Last night and this morning, guns of the Lebanese conservative forces shelled heavily many times the positions of the national patriotic forces and the Palestinian resistance movement close to the frontier with Israel. Israeli artillery units also shelled these positions, according to a report of the Palestinian news agency WAFA.

A relatively quiet situation is preserved in Beirut where bloody clashes took place last week between some units of the Lebanese Army and units of the conservative "Lebanese front" on the one hand, and the Syrian troops that are part of the inter-Arab peace-keeping forces, on the other. There was, however, sporadic exchange of fire in some districts. Some of the population of the eastern part of Beirut where the heaviest fighting had taken place fled the city fearing the resumption of clashes. Despite the call of the Education Ministry for resumption of classes in schools, many educational establishments remain closed.

U.S. AID KEEPS NEW LEBANESE ARMY UNDER CHRISTIAN CONTROL

LD131240Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Arabic to the Arab World 1630 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Last week there was a great escalation of Israeli aggression against Lebanon. The Israeli Army units crossed the Lebanese border and occupied a large border area. This aggression acted as a signal to the Phalangist groups to stage, in turn, a new attack on the positions of the patriotic and Palestinian forces, while Israeli artillery played a supporting role.

In the face of these new Israeli (?attacks) the need to rebuild the Lebanese Army as a fighting force capable of protecting national sovereignty has emerged. Lebanese Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus said that rebuilding the Lebanese Army still preoccupies the government. However, this issue is much more difficult than some imagine it to be. The major obstacle which hinders the building of a modern regular army based on military discipline and capable of opposing the Zionist aggressor is the Christian rightwing forces which are supported by Israel and the United States.

As a result of these forces' intrigues, clashes have taken place recently between Lebanese Army units and the Arab deterrent forces, which were sent to Lebanon to assist in restoring political stability after a destructive civil war. It is known that Lebanese Army units--basically consisting of Christian elements--opened fire on the Syrian units which are part of the Arab deterrent forces at the Al-Fayyadiyah Military School quarter in Beirut. Political observers regarded these painful events as a serious provocation by the rightist forces which seek to destroy the process of achieving political stability and intensify tension in the Middle East to the advantage of the Zionist aggressor and the forces which are allied with him.

It is noteworthy that the latest provocation took place in the shadow of the flow of U.S. weapons to the rightist forces under the cloak of U.S. assistance to rebuild the Lebanese Army. Under this aid program, a U.S. military transport plane brought in the first consignment of U.S. rifles and machineguns on 17 November 1977. On 20 November a (?big) group of armored vehicles and fuel tankers arrived at Beirut port. U.S. military deliveries to Lebanon still continue.

In light of the recent clashes at the Al-Fayyadiyah School quarter, the reason for the United States great zeal in rebuilding the Lebanese Army is quite clear. The real reason for the quick U.S. response to the Lebanese Government request for weapons for the new Lebanese Army lies totally in the fact that this rebuilding is taking place on the same old corrupt basis which keeps the army a tool of the Christian community, whose interests (?greatly) coincide with Israeli interests in Lebanon and the entire Middle East. This community adopts an attitude similar to the Israeli attitude toward the Palestinian resistance movement. But did not the sectarian principle applied in rebuilding the army, particularly its leadership cadres, lead to the division of this army during the civil war? Is it not clear that rebuilding the army should be based on new democratic principles which are needed by all the political institutions in Lebanon?

But while the wise political forces in Lebanon call for the implementation of these democratic reforms, they at the same time warn against the (?dangerous) illusions some people have (?and particularly those) who (?believe) that guaranteeing peace and security can be achieved through military cooperation with the United States.

EGYPTIAN OPTIMISM CONTRASTS WITH WORLD SKEPTICISM ON AS-SADAT

LD140913Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Feb 78 p 5 LD

[Correspondent A. Vasilyev untitled dispatch under general heading: "The Mirages Are Being Dispelled"]

[Text] Cairo, 9 February--Despite international news agency reports which are skeptical on the results of As-Sadat's visit to the United States, the Egyptian press has once again assumed an optimistic tone. The Egyptian newspapers today announced that the United States has gone from being an "honest broker" in the Near East to a "partner" in the settlement talks. Banner headlines report that the United States has "agreed" to sell military aircraft and other arms to Egypt.

WEIZMAN ORDER TO HALT SETTLEMENT WORK 'PROPAGANDA GIMMICK'

LD131422Y Moscow TASS in English 1329 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 13, TASS--TASS commentator Vladimir Petrov writes:

Israel's Deputy Defence Minister Mordechai Zippori has appeared in an unusual role. In a conversation with reports [as received] of the Israeli television, he unwittingly exposed the Israeli Defence Minister Ezer Weizman. Commenting on the report of the Israeli radio that Weizman ordered the halting of all works for the construction of militarized settlements in the north of the Sinai Peninsula, Zippori said that no directives of this kind were issued by the defence ministry and that earth moving and building activities continued in the Yamit area.

Zippori's words are confirmed by statements of other Israeli officials. David Nachmias, head of the Yamit sector of the Jewish agency's settlement department, told television reporters in Tel Aviv that all earth moving activities in existing settlements and those now being built continue as planned. Moreover, he reported that a master plan under which the population in Yamit will reach 50 thousand has been recently approved.

Thus Weizman's "order" to halt the construction of militarized settlements has been proved to be nothing else but a propaganda gimmick. Weizman's awkward lie spread by radio Tel Aviv clearly had the purpose of creating the impression that Israel is ready to revise its policy of annexation of occupied Arab lands.

But who can believe this when Israel continues illegal development of occupied lands and its leaders state that Israeli settlements in Arab lands will be preserved under any settlement of the Middle East problem.

ISRAEL, U.S. AGREE ON ANNEXATION OF ARAB TERRITORY

LD1315022 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1230 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] They are talking and writing a great deal today in the West and in Egypt claiming that sharp differences are going on between the United States and Israel. In their opinion, these differences concern the question of the fate of the Israeli settlements which have been built or are under construction in the occupied Arab territory. Washington considers those settlements as illegal and Tel Aviv declares that settlements will also be built in the future. Indeed, Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan said that all the future Israeli Governments will not deviate from the policy of building settlements in the West Bank, the area Tel Aviv considers as a liberated and not an occupied soil.

In regard to the Israeli settlements in Sinai, Israel intends to widen the network and provide army protection of these settlements. The significant point here is the fact that the present Israeli prime minister, Begin, has purchased a piece of land on the Mediterranean in Sinai. He would like, after resigning, as he himself has said, to live on that land together with his family.

During the most recent press conference held by U.S. Secretary of State Vance in Washington, many questions were put to him about the U.S. attitude on the future of the Israeli settlements. A journalist told Vance literally: Now after your talks with As-Sadat you can say to the Israelis in your capacity as mediator in the Middle East conflicts that the continuation of their actions concerning the settlements may lead to the failure of the peace talks. The U.S. secretary of state answered by saying: I do not like to describe this in such words.

Let us suppose that the issue here is not an issue of phrases but an issue of the crux of the U.S. attitude on the issue of the future of the Israeli settlements. This attitude was frankly revealed by Israeli Prime Minister Begin when he said on Sunday that the U.S. Government in December 1977 supported the Israeli draft agreement with Egypt which stated in a manner that is not open to interpretation that the Israeli settlements in Sinai would continue. Begin also said that President Carter agreed to the Israeli proposals on granting the fictitious self-rule to the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The proposals also call for retaining the Israeli settlements there. In other words, the Israeli prime minister is unmasking what the U.S. leaders are claiming--that they oppose Tel Aviv's expansionist policy in the occupied Arab territory.

No, there are no differences on this issue between the United States and Israel. Washington has no intention of applying any pressure on Israel in anything. It only wants to create in some people's minds the impression of the existence of differences and this is purely for propaganda purposes which have no connection with reality. Washington's attitude on the issue of Israel's secure and defensible borders is well known. What is meant by this is U.S. agreement to the annexation of large parts of Arab territory.

ISRAELI LEADERSHIP'S ATTITUDE TOWARD PEACE CRITICIZED

TA131123Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Hebrew 1730 GMT 11 Feb 78 TA

[Excerpts] Many observers agree that the goals set by the Israeli leaders in the separate talks with Egypt do not meet the requirements of establishing a just and stable peace in the Middle East. The Israeli position in these talks proves that Israel continues to ignore the key problem of the Middle East settlement and seeks to fortify its presence in the conquered areas.

Can such a line lead to the establishment of a lasting peace in the Middle East? Does it not lead to the preservation of the seeds of war in this region when it leaves the basic problem unsolved? Are those not in the right who claim that reconciliation of the Israelis and Arabs can be achieved only on a just basis, on the basis of realizing the just rights and interests of all the parties involved in the conflict? This is an unquestioned truth that cannot be refuted by the declarations of the Israeli leaders about their aspirations for peace with the Arabs and their statement that Israel has historic rights to the territories conquered in the 1967 offensive.

When the situation is assessed from a broad historical viewpoint, it is not difficult to conclude that the present Israeli leadership is not loyally working in the interests of its own people when its position is based on annexation plans. The Middle East is a tinder box and if a new war breaks out nobody can predict its results. Nevertheless, the Israeli leaders cannot transcend their egotistical aspiration, shake off their illusions and open their eyes to what is happening in the world.

Is it not clear that the Israeli public should at long last tell its present leaders that it expects real moves to lead the country to a stable peace with defense guarantees? It is to this that the Israeli Communist Party applies itself. In a special declaration concerning the separate talks between Egypt and Israel, the Israeli Communist Party Central Committee calls on the Israelis to struggle for a just settlement in the Middle East and for the resumption of the Geneva conference with all the parties concerned. It is clear that this is the only possible way to reach a just and stable peace in the Middle East.

YASIR 'ARAFAT SPEECH ON MIDEAST CARRIED BY HUNGARIAN TV

LD131356Y Moscow TASS in English 1340 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Budapest, February 13 TASS--Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization Yasir 'Arafat stressed in his speech, appearing in the Sunday political programme of the Hungarian television, that Middle East settlement cannot be achieved without the participation of the Palestinian people.

Yasir 'Arafat said that the Palestine Liberation Organization is the sole lawful representative of the Palestinian people. The organization's purpose is to implement national rights of the long-suffering Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination and creation of their own independent state.

The chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization pointed out with satisfaction that the Palestinian people receives broad international support in its just struggle, is, specifically, supported by countries of the socialist community.

Touching upon the policy of Egypt that took the road of separate talks with Israel, Yasir 'Arafat says that nobody authorised the Egyptian president to represent the Palestinians' interests. He rejected the attempts of the United States, Israel and Arab reaction to prevent the Palestine Liberation Organisation from participating in the quest for peace in the Middle East and to replace it with some other "Palestinian representatives".

Yasir 'Arafat spoke highly about the results of the conference of heads of a number of Arab states and the Palestine Liberation Organization that was held in Algiers, the conference that declared against As-Sadat's capitulatory policy. He also added that the political declaration adopted by the conference will be followed by specific practical steps to oppose this policy. Our purpose is to strengthen the front of progressive Arab forces and make it more effective, the Palestinian leader said.

PLO CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING OPENS IN DAMASCUS

LD132054Y Moscow TASS in English 1645 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Damascus, February 13, TASS--Meetings of the Central Council of the Palestine Liberation Organisation have begun here under the direction of Khalid al-Fahum, chairman of the Palestine National Council. Taking part in them are Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, other Palestine leaders.

As reported by the SANA news service, the members of the PLO Central Council will consider the development of events in the Middle East, discuss the results of the recent meeting of the heads of several progressive Arab states in Algiers and will map out practical steps to carry out its decisions.

The agenda of the Central Council meetings includes also questions related to the strengthening of the unity of the Palestine resistance movement, determination of the place and time for the holding of the regular 14th session of the Palestine National Council.

ARAB PAPERS HIGHLIGHT BREZHNEV CABLE TO AL-ASAD

LD121755Y Moscow TASS in English 1600 GMT 12 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Damascus, February 12, TASS--A congratulatory telegram from the general secretary of the CPSU CC, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev to the general secretary of the Arab Socialist Rennaisance Party, President of the Syrian Arab Republic Hafiz al-Asad, on the occasion of his reelection (?as) head of state, has [words indistinct] wide attention of the Syrian mass information media.

The central papers give pride of place to the text of the telegram, which has been repeatedly read in radio and television news bulletins.

Particular satisfaction is expressed here over the assurances, contained in the telegram, that in its struggle for establishing a just and lasting Middle-East peace, the friendly Syrian people can firmly rely on the Soviet Union's invariable support.

Confidence expressed by Leonid Brezhnev that relations of firm friendship and all-round cooperation between the USSR and the S.A.R. will go on developing in the future, is fully shared in Syria.

Beirut, February 12, TASS--Leonid Brezhnev's telegram to Hafiz al-Asad is widely commented on by the Lebanese press. Friendly relations between the Soviet Union and Syria, writes the paper [word indistinct], have good traditions and are a model of Soviet-Arab friendship, which no one will be able to undermine.

Publishing the text of the telegram, the paper AN-NIDA' stresses that the Soviet Union reiterates in it its resolve to give all-round aid and support to the Arab people in their just struggle for the liberation of Israeli occupied territory and the restoration of the legitimate national rights of the Palestine Arab people. The Soviet Union principled position, the paper points out, was always aimed at achieving a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, in the interests of all the countries and peoples of this region.

Amman, February 12, TASS--Jordanian papers have frontpaged the text of Leonid Brezhnev's congratulatore telegram to Syrian President al-Asad. Headlines over the text note that the Soviet Union intends to go on developing friendly relations with Syria and give all-out support to the Arabs' struggle to eliminate the consequences of the Israeli aggression.

ARAB PEOPLE'S CONGRESS MEETING OPENS IN DAMASCUS

LD1214444Y Moscow TASS in English 1313 GMT 12 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Damascus, February 12, TASS--The third session of the Permanent Secretariat of the All-Arab peoples' Congress which includes representatives of political, trade union and youth organisations of a number of Arab countries opened here. Its participants will discuss questions connected with the activity of the all-Arab united progressive front that was set up at the Tripoli conference of heads and members of the leadership of a number of progressive Arab states in December of last year. The front's tasks include coordination of efforts in the struggle against plots of imperialism, Zionism and internal reaction, against any attempts at capitulatory solution of the Middle East problem.

Delegations of Algeria, Iraq, Libya, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and Palestine Liberation Organization arrived here for the session.

BRIEFS

SOVIET-MOROCCAN AGREEMENT--An agreement on phosphates between Morocco and the Soviet Union has been signed in Moscow by Mr Karim Lamrani, on behalf of his majesty the king's government and Mr Mordvinov, deputy chairman of a state committee and Mr Morozov, first deputy minister of foreign trade on behalf of the Soviet Government. Following the signing cermony, the Moroccan ambassador to Moscow gave a dinner for the two delegations and several leading Soviet figures including Mr Skachkov, chairman of a state committee, Mr Ishkov, minister of the fish industry, the deputy minister of the chemical industry and the deputy chairman of a state committee. [Casablanca LE MATIN in French 29 Jan 78 p 4 LD]

EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

COMMENTARY SCORES TURKEY'S INCREASED ARMS SPENDING

LD102152Y Moscow in Turkish to Turkey 1400 GMT 8 Feb 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary: "On NATO's Diktat Turkey Is Increasing Its Military Expenditures"]

[Excerpts] As a result of the struggle waged against imperialism by the forces for peace, international detente has become the principal trend in the development of the contemporary world. However, in order to consolidate international detente, it is necessary to complete political detente with military detente.

What is NATO's response to the Soviet Union's call? NATO, which frequently states that it wishes to continue a policy of international detente, in fact pursues a policy aimed at undermining international detente and whipping up the arms race, resulting in a great threat to the peoples.

Increasing military expenditures are a particularly large burden on economically underdeveloped Turkey. As is known, lately the Turkish Republic has been experiencing great economic difficulties. According to Turkish economists, constantly increasing inflation, unemployment, the high cost of living, large domestic and foreign debts, and power shortages are among the most serious problems facing Turkey. While these circumstances exist, the Western monopolies, exploiting Turkey's great need for credits, are trying to force Turkey--through organizations such as the International Monetary Fund--to considerably slow down its economic development and to devalue its currency once again. In other words, they want to tie Turkey's national interests [word indistinct] political and economic aims. As a result of this, Turkey's already difficult position becomes still worse.

Various strata of the Turkish population oppose this open diktat of NATO and the Western monopolies, and yet the results of this diktat appear in every field. NATO's diktat is also felt in the draft of this year's state budget currently being discussed by the National Assembly's Budget Commission. This year's draft budget envisages the allocation of 53 billion Turkish lira for military purposes. This is 13 percent more than that of 1977. Thus, even in conditions of great economic difficulties it is envisaged to spend 20 percent of the state budget on nonproductive purposes. Why does Turkey allocate such a vast sum for military ends? NATO leaders repeatedly claim that it is necessary for Turkey to arm against the so-called Soviet threat.

GREEK CP SECRETARY, CYPRIOT OFFICIAL MEET

LD061424Y Moscow TASS in English 1203 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Athens, February 6, TASS--A meeting has been held here between First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Greece H. Florakis and President of the House of Representatives of Cyprus A. Mikellidhis, who stayed on an official visit to Greece.

H. Florakis expressed profound solidarity of the communists of Greece with the just struggle of the Cyprus people for unity and independence of their country. The Communist Party of Greece, he said, welcomes any initiative aimed at implementation of the U.N. resolutions on Cyprus. Any actions taken outside the framework of the U.N. decisions are not conducive to solution of the problem and are levelled against Cyprus' independence.

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

FURTHER MATERIAL ON CONFLICT IN HORN OF AFRICA

Ethiopian Progress

LD171944Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1645 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

[Text] According to reports from Addis Ababa units of the Ethiopian army are liberating the territory of their country from Somali troops which invaded it. It is also reported that Mariam, chairman of the Ethiopian Provisional Military Administrative Council, has confirmed that Ethiopian troops do not intend to cross the Somali border. Ethiopia, he emphasized, does not have territorial claims on any country whatsoever.

Meanwhile, according to reports from the Somali capital of Mogadiscio, the Somali government is trying to expand its aggression. Somalia has admitted for the first time that it is sending its regular units to Ethiopia. The Somali government has declared a general mobilization and has appealed to Western countries for additional military assistance.

Situation in Hararge Province

LD172208Y Moscow TASS in English 2156 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Harar, February 13, TASS--TASS correspondent Yu. Ustimenko reports: The tortuous line of trenches and dugouts stretches 17 kilometers away from Harar, the administrative center of the Ethiopian Hararge Province. At the side of a narrow roadstand twisted and torn tanks and troops carriers, stopped by the fire of anti-tank weapons. Heaps of used cartridges designate the combat positions of Ethiopian artillerymen.

Somewhat further east stands the dead city of Fedis. Its empty windows and doors are black holes in the walls of the clay houses. There are practically no people. And only on one of the surviving buildings one can see the proud tricolor of Ethiopia. Somali troops have been hurled back from Fedis and its residents are starting to return home. But thousands more of Hararge residents cannot do so: Three-quarters of the province is occupied by Somali troops. As a result of the combat operations near Harar, more than 20,000 became homeless. A refugee camp set up on the outskirts of the city has a population of more than 5,000.

Speaking to a group of pressmen, the chief administrator of Hararge Lemma Kutema said that official Western representatives charge Ethiopia with aggressive intentions, though it is Ethiopia that became a victim of aggression. Such statements are aimed at misleading world public opinion about the true situation in the African Horn, at supporting the aggressor and at internationalizing the armed conflict in this region. Ethiopia, he stressed, has no territorial claims to neighbouring countries. Our purpose is to ensure peace and freedom to our people and rid our soil of the invaders.

When Ethiopia is cleared of the invaders, said member of the Provisional Military Administrative Council (PMAC) Seleke Beyene, we shall be prepared to negotiate with representatives of the Somali people on the establishment of good-neighbourly relations and the development of cooperation between the two countries. Revolutionary Ethiopia wants peace and friendship with all peoples and countries and steadfastly adheres to the principles of the U.N. and the O.A.U. He stressed that his people is grateful to the socialist countries, the Soviet Union above all, to all progressive and peace-loving people of the globe, for their selfless and all-round support to the embattled Ethiopian people.

Further Report on Hararge

LS132332Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2130 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

[Text] The Ethiopian Army and detachments of the People's Militia are continuing successful offensive operations against the Somali aggressors in the area of the town of Harar in the Ethiopian province of Hararge. Our correspondent, Vadim Lobachenko, following a trip with a group of journalists to the area of military action, reports from Harar:

Along the sides of the dusty country road we took behind the frontline, Somali tanks and armored carriers put out of action and burnt out (?chassis) of trucks appeared every now and then. This is what it is like along almost all 40 kilometers separating Harar from the present frontline. The offensive is developing. Somali units, as a result of the strikes of the Ethiopian troops, are rolling back further and further. Some 5 kilometers from the ancient town of Harar, a line of trenches cut across our road. The interventionist army got as far as this point, virtually to the suburbs of Harar. Just a bit farther behind the trenches are gun emplacements thickly strewn with (?loaded) cartridge cases. It was there that Somali batteries which shelled the streets of Harar, bringing death and destruction to the town's inhabitants, were positioned.

In one of the emplacements abandoned by Somali troops, I stumbled on a green bazooka tube. Major (Arkhano Taseste), who accompanied us, explained that this was a recoilless antitank weapon of American make. The United States and other countries of the NATO military bloc are extensively supplying the Somali Army with arms. Later on, we were shown a substantial collection of these arms seized from retreating Somali units in the past few days. These trophies included mortar weapons, machineguns and antitank weapons, mines and submachine guns.

Walking between several rows of American mortars, I read the inscription on one of them--mortar caliber 81 millimeters, serial number 16,217. Then came the name of the owner--the U.S. Army. The little plate on the brand new Browning machinegun standing next to it, with the number 800-4304, informed one that it had been made by the American corporation General Motors. On boxes containing mines were inscriptions in English and Arabic: Packaging Number 085-56; property of the Saudi Arabia Ministry of Defense and Aviation.

Weapons and hundreds of millions of dollars are still not all the assistance that Somalia gets from world reaction. As Colonel Mulatu Negash, commander of the Ethiopian troops in this area, stated at a press conference in Harar, army subunits from the reactionary Arab countries are taking part in aggressive operations in Somalia against Ethiopia. Their total number is about 12,000 soldiers and officers.

But, despite the support being given by the international reaction to the aggressors, the army detachments and People's Militia of Ethiopia are continuing to drive them out of occupied territory.

Soviet Stand

LD131950Y Moscow in English to Africa 1330 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

[Vladislav Chernukha commentary]

[Text] Another official communique has been issued in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, on the hostilities in the Ogaden. It says that Ethiopian troops have achieved major successes in operation against regular units of the Somali army that invaded the province.

The communique underlines once again that Ethiopia seeks only to liberate the occupied lands and has no intention of sending its troops on to Somali territory. Ethiopia has said repeatedly that it has no territorial claims to Somalia.

Our observer, Vladislav Chernukha, makes this comment:

Plainly Ethiopia wants peace and goodneighborly relations with Somalia, but the condition for such relations is naturally that Somalia immediately, fully and unconditionally withdraw from Ethiopian territory. Such a prospect apparently does not suit the forces that were instrumental in unleashing the fratricidal war between the two independent African countries; these are some of the NATO countries and especially the United States. They would love to change the regime both in Ethiopia and in Somalia and establish their control over the strategically important Horn of Africa. They are giving aid and support to the aggressor in conjunction with the most reactionary regimes in the Near and Middle East and China.

According to reports in the Western press, Somalia has received large consignments of various weapons from the United States and a number of other NATO countries. The London SUNDAY TELEGRAPH reported that the United States has worked out, together with Britain and other NATO countries, plans for the quick delivery to Somalia of new weapons consignments, including tanks, rockets and jet bombers. Federal Germany, Italy and other NATO countries will also take part in supplying Somalia with weapons.

The Soviet Union and the other socialist countries maintain a principled and consistent stand on the Somali-Ethiopian conflict. Before it started they warned the Somali leadership against any invasion of Ethiopian territory and advised settling controversial issues by peaceful means. When the armed conflict had already begun the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries sided, as they invariably do, with the victims of aggression. They called for an immediate end to hostilities, for the withdrawal of Somali troops from Ethiopia and for immediate peace talks. That path is in keeping not only with the interests of Somalia and Ethiopia but all the peoples of Africa and the Middle East.

NATO-Produced Arms

LD131732Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1506 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Harar--TASS correspondent Yuriy Ustimenko reports:

A large quantity of arms and ammunition produced by NATO countries, primarily the United States, was shown to foreign journalists invited to the town of Harar, administrative center of the Ethiopian province of Hararge. They were seized during the counterattack conducted by Ethiopian troops and detachments of the people's militia against the units of the regular Somali army which have attacked the country. The press representatives were also shown a group of Somali prisoners of war.

Lemma Kutema, chief administrator of the province, and Col Mulatu Negash, commander of the eastern front, informed the press conference that the attack aimed at freeing Ethiopian territory from the invaders is going well. The aggressors have been thrown back 60 kilometers from the town of (?Dire-Dawa) and 70 kilometers from Harar. The enemy is suffering heavy losses. Lemma Kutema stressed that from 5,000 to 12,000 foreign military personnel are taking part in the fighting on the side of the Somali units. Broad support is being given to Somalia by Saudi Arabia, Egypt and a number of other countries.

Nairobi, 13 Feb--It is reported from Mogadiscio that at a meeting Somali President Barre declared his decision to send more units of regular Somali troops into Ethiopia. At the same time he insistently called uppn the Western powers to urgently give military aid to Somalia, which he tried, contrary to commonly known facts, to represent as the "victim of aggression."

Barre's statement essentially rejects Ethiopia's proposal for a peaceful settlement to the conflict, which might be achieved on the basis of complete withdrawal of the Somali troops which have invaded the territory of a sovereign country. Somalia is clearly continuing the course of further expansion and internationalization of the conflict. At the same time, observers point out the note of panic in the statement by the Somali president, who evidently fears complete collapse of the adventure he has undertaken.

New York, 13 Feb--The Western powers supporting Somali aggression against Ethiopia are displaying more and more concern in connection with the successful counterattack by Ethiopian troops. Information has appeared in the press about plans being drawn up by the NATO states for urgent delivery of arms directly from those countries to Somalia. At present such deliveries are made through the reactionary Arab states.

NEWSWEEK has published a report which throws light on the secret contacts between Somali President Barre and the NATO countries in order to obtain arms and equipment. One of the deals provides for the recruiting of a large group of American mercenaries who have experience from the Vietnam war.

The periodical writes that the Somali side has had secret talks in London, Paris, Madrid and Rome. As a result, it has been able to order 43 U.S. Cobra military helicopters made under license at the works of the Italian company (?Augusta). A consortium composed of British, French and Spanish companies, NEWSWEEK notes, is delivering to Somalia ammunition, anti-aircraft missiles, and spare parts for tanks. The supplies are being paid for by Saudi Arabia.

Paris, 13 Feb--According to reports in the French press, Egyptian President as-Sadat, who has visited France, had talks on the delivery to Egypt of Mirage aircraft and other weapons. These arms, as L'AURORE points out, are "intended for Somalia."

ACTIVITIES OF ETHIOPIAN MILITIA DETACHMENTS DESCRIBED

LD1314457 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 8 Feb 78 p 9 LD

[Report by Vadim Lobachenko, correspondent for Soviet television and radio, for LITERATURNAYA GAZETA: "Ethiopia in Struggle"]

[Text] Addis Ababa--Having turned the corner at "Addis Bank" our car entered a narrow side street rising steeply toward the city hall. Before I reached it I noticed armed men leaving the entrance to this multistory building. By their scarlet caps it was easy to recognize volunteer members of a people's militia detachment. The Fiat travelling in front of us braked sharply. The passengers hurled themselves onto the sidewalk. A bearded "monk" running past our car grabbed an automatic weapon from under his cassock and let off a few rounds. In reply the militiamen opened fire....

The next morning local newspapers only briefly mentioned a battle with terrorists, who were wiped out during an operation against counterrevolutionary elements in a central district of Addis Ababa. This was just one episode in a difficult struggle.

In January alone the security forces and detachments of the people's militia have crushed several large gangs in the capital and 1,000 brigands have been arrested and are awaiting trial by military tribunals. A large quantity of explosives, rifles with telescopic sights, grenades and automatic rifles including Israeli "Uzi" submachineguns has been seized. All kinds of clothes were discovered in hiding places: The brigands like to wear disguises, and they especially like monk's cassocks--it is easy to hide weapons under them--and soldier uniforms in which they can carry rifles openly.

The local press frequently calls Addis Ababa a "frontline city." And this is true, for here lies the front line of the Ethiopian revolutionaries' struggle against internal reaction. Suffice it to say that in the last year alone two major conspiracies were revealed in the capital. In recent months more than 300 eminent figures of the Ethiopian revolution have perished.

And it is no coincidence that the activization of the local extremists coincided with the aggressive acts of international reaction. Blatantly flouting the UN Charter and the founding principles of the OAU, Somalia has for 6 months now been conducting military operations in the west and southern regions of Ethiopia. Encouraged by reactionary Arab regimes, the United States and other NATO countries that are striving to maintain and strengthen their positions in the strategically important region of the Horn of Africa, the Somali ruling circles are openly pursuing a policy of expansion and territorial gain. Since 23 July, that is since the beginning of direct aggression, Somali troops have penetrated 700 km into Ethiopian territory in the east of the country, in Ogaden, and 300 km into the southern provinces. As Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Ethiopia, reported, in the regions of military operations "the number of casualties can be counted in thousands and the material losses in several hundred million Ethiopian birrs."

But despite all the power of world reaction, the Somali Army was still unable to attain what it wanted--to capture the major cities of this region, Harar and Dire Dawa.

The latest reports from Harar say that Ethiopians, relying on assistance from friendly socialist countries, have been able to break the course of the fighting and stop the aggressor.

Ethiopia firmly advocates a peaceful settlement of the military conflict in the Horn of Africa, but on condition of the immediate withdrawal of the Somali Army from the country's territory. In this connection the recent TASS statement supporting Ethiopia's peace-loving position and rejecting the insinuations of the Somali ruling circles and their imperialist allies was greeted with great satisfaction in Addis Ababa.

Detachments of the volunteer people's militia have been created in all cities and villages to defend the revolution. They keep order, fight against counterrevolutionary gangs and together with the regular army are now fighting difficult battles against foreigners.

Recently in the settlement of (Fiche), which lies to the north of Addis Ababa, one more people's militia detachment was formed. After the ceremony I spoke with a member of the detachment, 18-year-old (Tenayye Yumar). She has just left school and now works in the Kebele--the (Fiche) city dwellers association. Adjusting the rifle hanging over her shoulder, the girl said that her brother (Negusse) is fighting the Somali aggressors in Ogaden, near Harar. "He is in Ogaden and we are in (Fiche)," (Yumar) said, "are together defending the gains of the revolution. We are now probably going through the most difficult times. But I am sure our revolution will be victorious. We have many enemies, but a good many friends also. And the main thing is that our great friend, the Soviet Union, is with us, giving our people all-round help in the struggle for the revolution, to preserve a united and independent Ethiopia."

SOMALI-EQUIPPED 'BANDITS' REPORTEDLY ATTACK KENYAN VILLAGE

LD091504Y Moscow TASS in English 1452 GMT 9 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Nairobi, February 9, TASS--Elisha Godana, deputy minister of information and broadcasting of Kenya, said that bandits supported by Somalia attacked a Kenyan village in the area of Marsabit. These bandits, equipped with modern arms which were supplied to them by the Somalian Government, he said, crossed the frontier from Ethiopian territory and killed 25 villagers, wounded many others and took away several thousand head of cattle.

NEW YORK TALKS ON NAMIBIA 'FARCE STAGED BY WEST'

LD131838Y Moscow in English to Africa 1500 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

[Aleksandr Federov commentary]

[Text] Five Western countries are holding another round of talks on Namibia in New York. Taking part are the heads of the diplomatic services of the United States, Great Britain, France, West Germany and Canada and the president of SWAPO, Sam Nujoma. The South African foreign minister, Roelof Botha, also attended until he left New York on Sunday. Commentary is by Aleksandr Fedorov, and this is what he writes:

The West obviously expected that such a high level of participants would give weight to the talks and the settlement plan published on the eve of them. But an analysis of the Western plan makes it clear that it is still far from what the patriotic forces insist on. What is more, on a number of important points the Western powers have in fact met half way the racist South African regime, and indeed there is a provision allowing Pretoria to keep its troops in Namibia during the holding of elections. The SWAPO leaders, however, insist, and for a very good reason, that all South African troops should be withdrawn from the country. Otherwise, they point out, elections would not be free. The racists and their Western patrons need troops to terrorize the population and make it vote for the South African puppets united in the so-called Democratic Alliance.

Other provisions of the Western plan are also dubious, especially the point about the withdrawal of SWAPO units to special regions. This provision indicates that the imperialist powers are out to achieve at the talks what South African warriors have failed to achieve on the battlefield over years, that is, to force the SWAPO patriots to stop their armed struggle. As the struggle gains momentum it threatens the racist order in Namibia, the order the West is trying to facelift in order to save it.

It looks as though the new round of talks is nothing but a farce staged by the West to mislead the world public and secure approval of its plans for (?the) puppet state on the territory of Namibia.

STRENGTHENING OF SOUTH AFRICAN-ISRAELI TIES REPORTED

LD070948Y Moscow TASS in English 0740 GMT 7 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 7, TASS--The relations between the racialist Republic of South Africa and Zionist Israel have been considerably strengthened in recent years, especially after the visit to Tel Aviv by the South African Premier B. Vorster, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA (the RED STAR) writes today. It was precisely during that visit that a long-term agreement on the expansion of bilateral relations was concluded between the two countries. This referred first and foremost, to the military aspect of their contacts. As a consequence, shipments of Israeli arms to the southern extremity of the African Continent were markedly increased. The racialists began getting missiles, aircraft, missile launcher and electronic equipment. In return, the RSA made large investments in Israel's military industry.

But a particular threat to the cause of peace comes from nuclear cooperation between the RSA and Israel, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA says. It is common knowledge that the Zionists get raw materials for their nuclear industry from the south of Africa. In return, Israel shares secret documentation concerning nuclear technology with the RSA.

The visit of Israeli Finance Minister Simha Ehrlich to the RSA, the newspaper says, will further stimulate deepening of the Israeli-South African criminal alliance which is determin by the common tasks of combating the growth of the national liberation movement and by the manhating ideology underlying the state structure of the two countries.

USSR'S DEMICHEV RECEIVES SRI LANKA CULTURE MINISTER

LD101640Y Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1500 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Sri Lanka's minister of culture, Mr Edwin Hurulle, has been received by his Soviet counterpart, Petr Demichev. Mr Hurulle is visiting the Soviet Union at the invitation of its friendship society. In a friendly atmosphere the two ministers discussed cultural relations between their two countries and prospects for their development. Mr Hurulle has signed a programme of cultural cooperation between the League of Sri Lanka-Soviet Friendship and the Soviet-Sri Lanka Friendship Society for this year. Under this program the two countries will exchange exhibitions, literature, films and delegations.

INDIA-PAKISTAN TALKS 'OF SPECIAL IMPORTANCE' TO S. ASIA

LD131015Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Feb 78 Morning Edition p 3 LD

[I. Kovalev dispatch: "Expansion of Contacts"]

[Text] Delhi--Talks have begun in Islamabad between Indian Minister of External Affairs A.B. Vajpayee and Pakistani leaders.

The Indian public attaches great significance to A.B. Vajpayee's visit to the neighboring country. It is noted that this is the first visit by an Indian minister of external affairs to Pakistan in 12 years. Local commentators believe that the talks in Pakistan will help to strengthen mutual understanding between the two countries and will stimulate further expansion of bilateral cooperation.

In 1974-76 trade was restored between India and Pakistan, transport communications were established and there was an exchange of ambassadors.

In the opinion of commentators, the present visit is of special importance in view of the heightened interest displayed by the public of the South Asian countries in developing regional cooperation.

INDONESIAN AUTHORITIES CONTINUE CLAMPDOWN ON STUDENTS

LD061410Y Moscow TASS in English 1400 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Jakarta, February 6, TASS--The Indonesian authorities continue arresting student leaders. According to Admiral Sudomo, chief of the headquarters of the command set up to restore security and order, a total of 223 persons have already been detained. They were arrested for their refusal to terminate anti-government actions. According to Sudomo, the government fully controls the situation in the country.

The participants in student actions, which in mid-January gained momentum, accused the authorities of inability to resolve the country's acute problems. These disturbances, according to representatives of the authorities, could have led to a crisis situation, since certain forces sought to use them for their own aims.

U.S. 'SABER-RATTLING' AT ODDS WITH ASIAN PROGRESS

LD061001Y Moscow PRAVDA IN RUSSIAN 2 Feb 78 p 5 ID

[Vsevolod Kalinin commentary: "Intrigues of Militarists"]

[Text] The United States and Thailand are conducting joint naval maneuvers in the Gulf of Siam. The commander of the Thai Navy has reported that further exercises will be held at the end of February during which antisubmarine operations will be perfected. He also reported that U.S., British, Thai and possibly Australian warships will participate in these maneuvers.

The increase in militarist activity in Southeast Asia is a new attempt by Washington to tie the countries of this region to its military and political plans in Asia. Shortly before the maneuvers R. Oakley, U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state for East Asia and Pacific Affairs, visited Bangkok and the capitals of other countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations [ASEAN]. The purpose of his visit was to prepare an official meeting between representatives of the United States and ASEAN, which includes Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and the Philippines. The meeting is planned to be held in Washington in the summer of this year.

The United States has also announced an increase in economic aid to Bangkok, which had been reduced regularly in previous years. The amount allocated for fiscal 1979 will be more than five times the amount originally planned.

Of course, Washington's activity, which betrays its desire to bring the ASEAN countries farther into the orbit of its foreign policy, is the result of definite causes. U.S. officials are alarmed at the fact that the broad public in these countries is increasingly insistent on the implementation of a truly independent foreign policy. A process of goodneighborliness and cooperation among countries with different social systems has recently become apparent in the region as a result of socialist Vietnam's initiatives. Thailand, by virtue of its geographic location, as well as a result of the realistic stance of its present government, has not remained aloof from this process.

This development in Southeast Asia plainly does not suit U.S. militarists, for it runs counter to their plans to turn ASEAN into a military bloc designed to serve the Pentagon's strategic interests. Under these conditions they are resorting to saber-rattling, involving other countries in war games and poisoning the atmosphere--the typical method of imperialism when it contemplates confusing the peoples. It is clear that such a policy contradicts the interests of normal relations in this region and its development along the path of peace and social progress.

PRAVDA PROVIDES WORLD REACTION TO SRV PEACE PROPOSAL

LD140935Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[TASS reports: "An Important Initiative"]

[Text] New York, 9 February--The Vietnamese Government statement of 5 February, containing constructive proposals for a settlement of the Vietnamese-Cambodian conflict through negotiations, is meeting with approval and support in the United Nations. The message from Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Trinh to UN Secretary General K. Waldheim on this issue has been disseminated as an official UN document. It is judged here as a manifestation of good will and sincere love of peace of the Vietnamese Government and people. UN circles note that a peaceful settlement of the border problems would be in complete accordance with the UN Charter and with the interests of maintaining peace and international security in Southeast Asia and throughout the world.

Constant attention is also being paid to the dangerous intrigues of imperialist and reactionary forces, which are trying to fan the flames of the Vietnamese-Cambodian conflict.

Budapest, 9 February--The Socialist Republic of Vietnam has again issued an initiative opening the path to a peace settlement in the interests of all the peoples of Indochina, the newspaper NEPSZABADSAG, central organ of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, stresses in an editorial. The newspaper indicates that Hungary actively supports the Vietnamese Government position, which is striving for the peaceful resolution of international problems.

Paris, 9 February--The 5 February Vietnamese Government statement proposes clear, detailed and reasonable measures for a speedy ending of military actions and for talks to discuss a treaty leading to respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Vietnam and Cambodia, R. Yuyot, member of the French Communist Party Central Committee, who recently visited the Vietnam-Cambodia border regions, writes in the newspaper L'HUMANITE. Peace and neighborly relations between the two countries could be quickly restored if the Phnom Penh leaders respond positively to Vietnam's proposals.

Hanoi, 9 February--Commenting on the Vietnamese Government's new peace proposals, the "Voice of Vietnam" radio stresses that if the Cambodian authorities again ignore Vietnam's good will and violate Vietnam's sovereignty and territorial integrity, it will become clear to the world that their flagrant anti-Vietnamese fabrications deceive Cambodia's people and conceal the growing unpopularity of the present Phnom Penh leadership in Cambodia.

U.S. WAR GAMES SEEK TO 'AGGRAVATE' VIETNAM-CAMBODIA CONFLICT

LD130014Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in English to Asia 1130 GMT 12 Feb 78 LD

[Summary] The U.S. 7th Fleet is staging major war games off the eastern coast of the Gulf of Siam. "The newspaper PRAVDA here has assessed the war games as a bid to aggravate the situation in the region of the border conflict between Vietnam and Kampuchea."

BROADCASTING CHIEF LAPIN REVIEWS VISIT TO JAPAN

OW111431Y Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1400 GMT 7 Feb 78 OW

[Apparent text of interview by Moscow Radio's Japanese-language department chief with Sergey G. Lapin, chairman of the State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting, who recently visited Japan at the invitation of NHK and Asahi television--first part of Lapin's first answer recorded in Russian fading into Japanese translation, rest of interview read by announcer; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Mr Chairman, you stayed in Japan for 6 days. Inasmuch as it was primarily a business trip, my first question is on that aspect of the visit. What was the result of your trip?

[Answer] As you indicated, it was a short visit and I had a very tight schedule. Nevertheless, I met many people involved in television and radio broadcasting in Japan, including some leaders. I toured their broadcasting stations.

I not only talked with the management of NHK but also with representatives of commercial stations in Tokyo and Osaka.

On behalf of the Soviet State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting I signed agreements, protocols and other documents on cooperation and joint production of programs with NHK, Asahi television, TBS, ABC and Kansai TV of Osaka. In addition, we made arrangements with NTV and Fuji TV on the production of specific programs.

I would like to add one thing in connection with this. Complying with one of the provisions of the 1978 protocol signed with NHK, the Soviet State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting will continue to cooperate with NHK on Russian-language lesson programs and will provide announcers to appear on these programs. Recently, (Natalya Chernova) left for Tokyo. As the sixth announcer provided by us, she is to appear on NHK Russian-language programs. They say that many people in Japan want to learn the Russian language and we appreciate NHK's efforts in this field.

[Question] Did you meet with Japanese cabinet members?

[Answer] I met Foreign Minister Sonoda and Post and Telecommunications Minister Hattori. They noted the need for exchanges of cultural materials between the USSR and Japan and for exchanges in the field of television and radio broadcasting. Our committee for television and radio broadcasting is also striving for the same goal.

NEGOTIATIONS SEEK BALANCED TRADE BETWEEN JAPAN, EEC

LD131411Y Moscow TASS in English 1314 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

["In the Atmosphere of Contradictions"--TASS headline]

[Text] Tokyo, February 13, TASS--Negotiations on commercial and economic problems between Japan and the Common Market opened today in Tokyo. The delegation of the European Economic Community is headed by special representative of the Commission of the European Communities Benedict Meynell.

The main subject of the current negotiations is the problem of balancing trade between Japan and the EEC. As a result of Japanese monopolies putting great volumes of their goods on the markets of EEC countries and the policy of Tokyo striving at any cost to protect its market from goods of other countries, the negative balance of trade of the EEC with Japan rose from 1.2 billion dollars in 1973 to five billion dollars in 1977.

At a conference of foreign ministers of the Common Market countries early in February, the EEC countries came out with strong criticism of Tokyo and demanded that Japan should take concrete measures to liquidate its huge surplus in trade with the EEC.

The EEC countries, specifically, want Japan to decrease its exports and to import a far greater volume of West European industrial products and also to increase its imports of farm products from the Common Market countries. Unless this is done, they threaten that they will increase protectionist barriers to the flow of Japanese goods.

The local press is pessimistic about the possibility of achieving specific results at these negotiations. Representatives of the Japanese Foreign Ministry declare that they have no proposal for solving commercial contradictions with the Common Market countries whose demands are unacceptable for Japan. They indicate that any decrease of Japan's exports to West European countries will deepen the economic recession in Japan.

MONGOLIAN FOREIGN MINISTER STOPS IN MOSCOW EN ROUTE TO INDIA

ID081309Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "En Route to India"]

[Text] Mongolian Foreign Minister M. Dugersuren stopped in Moscow 4-5 February en route to India on an official visit.

He was met and seen off at the airport by V.F. Maltsev, USSR first deputy foreign minister, and other officials. Among the welcoming party was H. Bandzragch, Mongolian ambassador to the USSR.

KIRILLIN, ARKHIPOV HAVE MEETINGS WITH MONGOLIA'S MAYDAR

ID101129Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[Text] TASS--A meeting took place 7 February between V.A. Kirillin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology, and D. Maydar, member of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the Mongolian Council of Ministers and chairman of the Mongolian Council of Ministers State Committee for Science and Technology.

A wide range of questions on the further development of scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and Mongolia were discussed during the conversation.

D.G. Zhimerin and D.M. Gvishiani, deputy chairmen of the State Committee for Science and Technology, participated in the conversation.

I.V. Arkhipov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received D. Maydar the same day.

H. Bandzragch, Mongolian ambassador to the USSR, participated in the conversation.

UKRAINE, NORTH CAUCASUS BESET BY SEVERE BLIZZARDS

LD131711Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Feb 78 p 6 LD

[Text] Reports have come in from cities and villages of the Ukraine and the north Caucasus about the bad weather that has developed there. Oldtimers cannot remember such snowstorms and blizzards. A PRAVDA correspondent asked V.N. Parshin, deputy director of the USSR Hydrometeorological Center, to comment on the letters from V. Pyshkov of Kherson, Z. Kolodin of Nalchik, and other PRAVDA readers.

The blizzards, which are of unusual intensity, are connected with southern cyclones which have come in from the Mediterranean Sea and which have brought with them very warm, moist air, V.N. Parshin reported. These cyclones frequently penetrate deep into the European territory of our country. This time their very rapid movement was blocked by a powerful, cold anticyclone. Whereas the temperature on the Black Sea coast rose to plus 20 degrees, in the center of the anticyclone the thermometer showed as much as 32 degrees below freezing. In the zone where the moist warm air and the cold air met, there was abundant precipitation. Sharp contrasts in air pressure led to stormy winds and squalls. Gusting winds reached speeds of 28-34 meters per second. In the snowstorms visibility fell to 50-100 meters. Snowdrifts appeared on roads. Severe black ice formed in southern oblasts of the Ukraine. In the coastal area of Krasnodarskiy Kray there were heavy rains, and storm-force winds up to 39 meters per second were registered. In a number of regions of the Ukrain precipitation over this period was 40-50 milimeters, which is more than the monthly average. The depth of the snow cover in certain central and northern oblasts reached 30-40 centimeters. The thickness of the ice which formed on power lines was 20-50 milimeters in Odessa and 50-80 milimeters in certain regions of the Kabardino-Balkarskaya ASSR. As a result of this, communications and electricity supplies were interrupted in some places.

The activity of the southern cyclones is now diminishing. The anticyclone is gradually breaking up and retreating toward the east. In this connection the frosts have become less severe in the central part of Russia, cloud cover has increased and light show has fallen. In the next few days the winds will die down in the Ukraine and north Caucasus, but the black ice will continue. Thanks to the prompt steps taken, the consequences of the blizzards and snowstorms have been successfully overcome. The organs of the hydrometeorological service issued warnings and provided the necessary information about the dangerous weather phenomena.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

CPSU LETTER DECLARES STATE OF EMERGENCY IN ECONOMY

LD131229Y Turin LA STAMPA in Italian 9 Feb 78 pp 1-2 LD

[Frane Barbieri dispatch: "USSR: Plan Proceeding Badly, Party Mobilized"]

[Excerpt] Belgrade, 8 February--"The situation of our economy is grave, the gravest for many years." According to confidential information received here from Moscow, this is the key sentence in a secret letter sent by the CPSU Politburo to subordinate CPSU committees following the equally secret CPSU Central Committee meeting at the end of last year which discussed Brezhnev's report on the state of the economy. The speech has also remained secret. According to the same information, the Central Committee has decreed a state of emergency and a mobilization of the entire party in the economic field. The secret letter apparently announced this. A general staff headed by Andrey Kirilenko has been set up to direct the operation from the Kremlin. He is being assisted on behalf of the USSR Council of Ministers by First Deputy Chairman Kirii Mazurov. The choice of these two in place of Brezhnev in the former case, and Kosygin in the latter seems indicative of the rankings of the possible successors of the two leaders now weakened by illness. Kirilenko also apparently read Brezhnev's speech to the Central Committee in Brezhnev's unreported absence from the meeting.

USSR TO INVESTIGATE FISHING PROSPECTS IN PACIFIC

LD082058Y Moscow TASS in English 1959 GMT 8 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 8, TASS--This year the Soviet Union plans expeditions to areas of the Pacific Ocean to define new potential fishing targets, an IZVESTIYA correspondent was told by Vladimir Kamenev, deputy minister of fisheries of the USSR.

Many coastal states have now introduced up to 200 nautical-mile wide territorial waters, fishing or economic zones. They overlap whole numbers of traditional fishing grounds of the Soviet fishing fleet.

In these conditions we are negotiating with a number of countries conclusion of agreements on cooperation in sea fishing. They envisage a rational use of resources in these zones. Such agreements were concluded with the United States of America, Canada, Japan, Norway, Sweden, Angola, Mauritania, Sierra Leone and other states. This makes it possible for our ocean-going fleet to continue fishing in waters adjacent to their coasts in order to ensure stability of the fish catch. Work is under way to widen the scale of fishing in the high seas of the world ocean, development of deep water fishing and the maximum use of fish stocks in coastal waters of the country.

In connection with the obtaining situation, the deputy minister went on to say, a certain change in the species of fish landed is witnessed. A particular significance therefore assumes the work in expanding the assortment and improving quality of products out of its new species.

A rise in efficiency of using resources is one of the main trends of the Soviet fishing industry. More than 80 per cent of fish landed is planned to be used to make food fish products and canned fish, as against 65 per cent in 1975. Broad development of production of delicatessen fish products in places of consumption is envisaged.

RESEARCH WORK CONTINUES ON BOARD SALYUT 6-SOYUZ 27

LD131118Y Moscow TASS in English 1108 GMT 13 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Mission Control Centre, February 13, TASS--The crew of the Soviet orbital research complex Salyut-6-Soyuz-27 is continuing its planned programme of research and experiments.

Cosmonauts Yuriy Romanenko and Georgiy Grechko performed a new picture-taking session under the programme of studying the earth's natural resources. The photographs were taken when the space complex was flying over parts of Siberia and the construction site of the Baykal-Amur Railway.

The crew continues its operations to replace individual instruments and assemblies and onboard systems of the "Salyut-6" station. Thus, planned for this afternoon is the installment of the last regenerator of the life supporting system that was delivered to the station by the "Progress-1" cargo spaceship.

The cosmonauts will also install a new set of pickups for the station's orientation and movement control system.

According to reports of the crew and data of telemetric information, the onboard systems of the station and the ship are operating normally. Romanenko and Grechko feel well. Work on the near-earch orbit continues.

PROLONGED MIDWINTER NAVIGATION IN BARENTS SEA

LD110120Y Moscow TASS in English 2113 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 10 TASS--Sailing from the Yenisey estuary, a caravan of ships, led by the atomic ice-breaker "Arktika", today came out of the ice-clad south-eastern part of the Barents Sea, and headed for Murmansk.

Never before in the history of northern navigation could it be prolonged so deep into winter. This success has been predetermined by long-term plans of development of production forces in the north, Timofey Guzhenko, minister of the merchant marine of the USSR, said in an IZVESTIYA interview. There, in the area with no roads, the fleet is the main transport, and it is very important that it should function not only in summer time, but should link remote areas with the mainland the year round.

In 1970 experimental Murmansk-Dudinka navigation was prolonged till November. As compared with traditional deadlines, this year's navigation has been prolonged by more than 100 days. Over the time about 30 ships carried a huge quantity of cargoes to the Dudinka port. That became possible thanks to the accumulated experience of winter navigation and ships, including the "Arktika" atomic ice-breaker, the diesel-electric ice-breaker "Captain Sorokin" (that can operate in shallow waters in the Yenisey estuary), including motorships "Captain Panfilov" and "Dmitriy Donskoy" motor ships specially built for northern routes.

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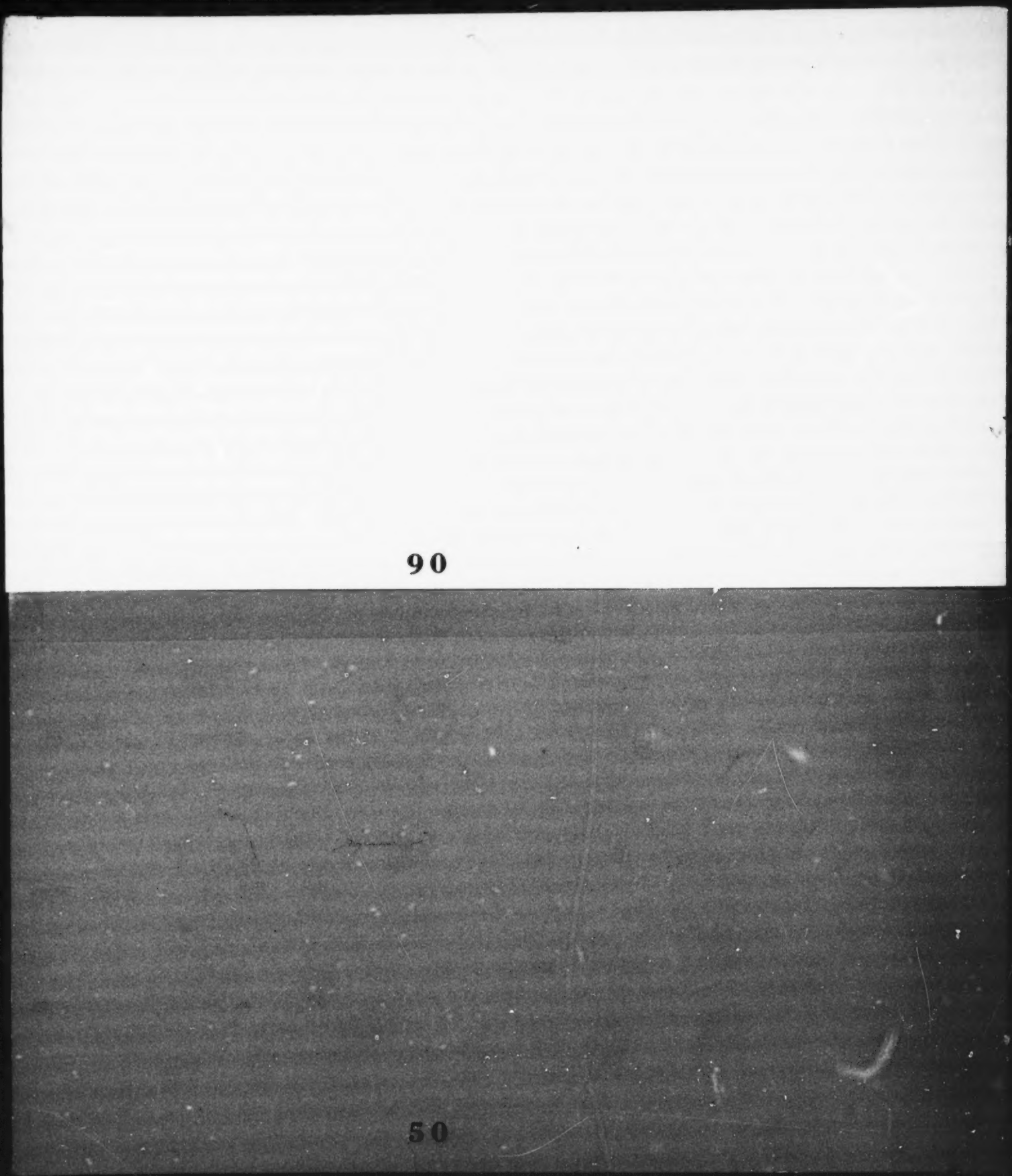
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